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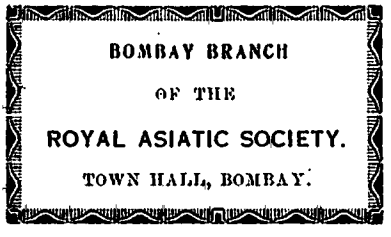

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A Summary of Important Matters connected with the Defence Services in India 1933-34

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A Summary of Important Matters connected with the Defence Services in India, 1933-34.

In the course of a debate in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March 1934, the Army Secretary promised to consider the possibility of publishing annually for the benefit of members of the Legislature an account of the chief activities of the Army during the previous twelve months. The following pages contain such an account in respect of all the three fighting services for the year which ended on the 31st March 1934.

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I.—OPERATIONS.

(1) *Bajaur.*—In May, 1933, an agitator appeared at the village of Kotkai in Bajaur and was reported to be indulging in intrigue in co-operation with the munshi of the Khan of Khar. To prevent unrest among the frontier tribes, the Government of India ordered notices to be dropped by the Royal Air Force in all the chief centres of Bajaur, warning the people that unless these two men were handed over by 29th July, action by air or land would have to be taken against them. As the notices had no effect, warning notices were dropped on Kotkai instructing the inhabitants to remove their women and children as the village would be bombed, and the village was bombed between the 1st and 5th August, 1933.

About the same time, namely on the 17th July, the bridge at Balambat over the Panjkora River was destroyed by a flood. In case land operations should become necessary in Bajaur, it was decided to re-build this bridge. In view of possible interference by the Bajaur tribes, on 17th August the 1st Indian Infantry Brigade with ancillary troops was sent to Balambat to protect the Sapper and Miner Company engaged in the bridge construction. The troops sent included the following :—

Two Batteries of Mountain Artillery.

One Field Company, Sappers and Miners.

One Section of Armoured Cars, Royal Tank Corps.

Two Companies 2|2nd (King Edward's Own) Gurkha Rifles.

1|5th Royal Gurkha Rifles (Frontier Force).

1|6th Gurkha Rifles.

2|6th Gurkha Rifles.

During the latter half of August, the Bajauris expelled the two wanted men from their territory. As the object of the operation, namely the removal of the agitators from Bajaur, had been achieved, the brigade was withdrawn after the completion of the temporary bridge at Balambat on 6th September.

(2) *Mohmand.*—The disturbances in Mohmand territory, which lasted from the end of July to the end of September, 1933, owed their inception to long-standing jealousies between the Upper and Lower Mohmands. The Lower Mohmands receive allowances, including *khassadari*, or payment for tribal police in Government employ, from the Indian Government, and the Upper Mohmands resent this. During 1932, the Upper Mohmands had threatened on various occasions to attack the Halimzai, a Lower Mohmand tribe on the border of Upper Mohmand territory, and their threats culminated in a raid into Halimzai territory in April, 1932. Further threats were only averted by a proclamation that Government would protect the Halimzai by force if an attack materialised.

In July, 1933, the murder of an Upper Mohmand by a Lower Mohmand in the Gandao served as an excuse for the Upper Mohmands to attack the Halimzai. The real motive for the attack, however, was partly to pay off old scores and partly to persuade the Lower Mohmands to sever their connection with Government. The first attack was beaten off by the Halimzais, but only after a number of their villages had been burnt. The Upper Mohmands then concentrated in greater force and, their hostile intentions being established, Government decided to intervene. Two Infantry brigades with the Royal Air Force co-operating were despatched at the end of July, 1933, into Gandao to protect the Lower Mohmands, in fulfilment of the undertaking given the previous year, and to cover the construction of a motor road so that help could be sent more rapidly in future.

Every effort was made to come to a peaceful agreement with the Upper Mohmands ; and on the 12th September a jirga of the latter accepted the Government's terms, and by the 25th September the lashkars had dispersed.

The road which, as is usual in such cases, was constructed mainly by tribal labour, was completed to Yusuf Khel on the 24th September, and the troops returned to their peace stations by the 3rd October. The troops engaged were the following :—

The Peshawar Brigade comprising :—

1/7th Rajput Regiment.

5/10th Baluch Regiment.

3/14th Punjab Regiment.

The Nowshera Brigade comprising :—

3/2nd Punjab Regiment.

1/11th Sikh Regiment.

5/12th Frontier Force Regiment.

18th King Edward's Own Cavalry (less one squadron).

Two sections of Armoured Cars, Royal Tank Corps.

58th Field Battery, Royal Artillery.

Three Mountain Batteries, Royal Artillery.

Two Field Companies, Sappers and Miners.

3/11th Sikh Regiment.

The necessary ancillary troops.

The construction of the road will undoubtedly have a civilising effect on all the Mohmand tribes, increasing, as it will, intercourse between

tribal territory and the settled districts, and by facilitating trade ; and from the military point of view it will permit of the rapid despatch of a force in support of the friendly tribes should such assistance again become necessary.

(3) *Waziristan.*—On the 26th August, 1933, at the request of the Resident, Waziristan, a demonstration by three aircraft of No. 27 (Bomber) Squadron of the Royal Air Force was carried out over Torwanand Spekai, where there had been a certain amount of restlessness.

From the 4th to 7th September 1933, reconnaissances were carried out daily by aircraft of the detachment of the same Squadron at Miranshah, co-operating with the Razmak Column and Tochi Scouts.

On January 11th a patrol of the Tochi Scouts was attacked by some three hundred Ghilzais. The Ghilzais are reported to have suffered a loss of six killed and three wounded, while the Scouts lost three killed and five wounded. On the following day patrols sent out from Shewa and Miranshah failed to establish contact with the Ghilzais, but a party of Kurram Militia carried out a successful round up of the Ghilzais in the Shabak area, capturing 13 of them and one hundred and twenty camels without further fighting. The Royal Air Force flight at Miranshah carried out reconnaissances in connection with these operations between 12th and 15th January. The aircraft were fired on, but no retaliatory action was taken.

On 3rd February a party of Tochi Scouts carried out a reconnaissance in the area north-west of Shewa, in co-operation with the Royal Air Force Flight at Miranshah. This flight was fired on by a party of Ghilzais. The aircraft retaliated and scattered the Ghilzais, and the Scouts were able to complete their reconnaissance without further incident.

(4) *Baluchistan.*—In July 1933, No. 5 (Army Co-operation) Squadron, Royal Air Force, co-operated with detachments of the Chagai Levy Corps on the Kalat-Sind frontier (Baluchistan), when they were engaged in rounding up a gang of dacoits.

(5) *Zhob.*—On the 11th October a party of migratory Ghilzais from Afghanistan attacked a temporary post of the Zhob Militia at Nimparao between Sambaza and Gul Kach. The garrison consisted of 50 Indian ranks under a Subedar. The raiders, who are estimated to have numbered between 100 and 200, attacked the post in darkness under a heavy covering fire. The post was most gallantly defended by the Militia and after fierce fighting the raiders were driven off and withdrew at dawn, leaving seven dead in our hands and carrying off other casualties with them. They made good their escape across the frontier before pursuit parties could be organized. The casualties of the garrison were three Indian ranks and two followers killed and five Indian ranks wounded.

On the 13th October one flight of No. 31 (Army Co-operation) Squadron, Royal Air Force, moved from Quetta to Fort Sandeman and patrolled this area for a time. Further reports regarding the collection of lashkars near the Afghan Frontier having been received a flight of

the same squadron was again despatched to Fort Sandeman on the 18th November as a precautionary measure. No lashkars were seen and the flight returned to Quetta on the 25th November.

II.—EQUIPMENT.

(1) *Royal Tank Corps.*—In 1931, it had been decided to replace gradually the armoured car by the light tank. The armoured car is a good vehicle for long distance reconnaissance in a country of good roads, but as the design of the light tank improved it became obvious that the day of the wheeled armoured car in such a country as India was over. The former is moreover no more expensive than the latter. Patterns of light tanks were therefore tried in this country and as a result tanks for three companies were purchased and proved very satisfactory.

(2) *Machine guns.*—In 1921, cavalry were armed with the Hotchkiss gun, and infantry with the Lewis gun : both guns were war-time productions and the Hotchkiss in particular was very unsatisfactory and was soon given up. This left the cavalry badly off for an automatic weapon, and at the same time the Lewis guns in possession of Infantry Battalions were wearing out and proving expensive in maintenance. The continuous search for lighter, more efficient and cheaper automatics produced among others the Vickers-Berthier, which after exhaustive tests in India proved most satisfactory. It has therefore been adopted as the sole automatic for cavalry and also as a replacement for the Lewis gun in the Infantry. It has been necessary to obtain first supplies from the United Kingdom, but after 1936 the guns will be manufactured in India. The result of this rearmament should be economical. During the period of initial provision the money which would have been spent on repair of the older guns will be used for purchasing the Vickers-Berthier, and after this period it is hoped to cut down the present cost of maintenance of automatics.

(3) *Oil Cooker.*—The large amount of transport necessary to maintain an army in the field has always been a matter of concern. As regards daily supplies, firewood for cooking has in the past accounted for approximately one-third of the weight that has to be supplied and since as a rule none is likely to be available locally this has to be brought from a distance. Experiments in the production of an oil cooker were therefore carried out in 1932-33 ; the introduction of such a cooker will save about 75 per cent. of the weight of fuel to be carried and will also facilitate and accelerate the cooking of the soldiers' food. These experiments have resulted in the final acceptance of an equipment burning kerosene oil, which is manufactured by the Gun Carriage Factory at Jubbulpore. Preliminary tests having been carried out, 250 sets were issued to selected units for trials during the training period. The results of the trials were generally satisfactory, and subsequent modifications have led to the production of a cooker with which it has been decided to equip the greater part of the Army in India.

III.—INDIANISATION.

(1) The accepted policy aims as a preliminary at the Indianisation of the units of one division of all arms (including ancillary services) and

one Cavalry brigade. This entails the Indianisation of certain existing units and the raising of new units of certain other arms (*e.g.*, Artillery), of which no Indian units existed previously.

(2) The units first to be Indianised are detailed in Appendix I. These units will move on relief in the normal manner except that in the case of the larger units (*e.g.*, Cavalry regiments and Infantry battalions) differences in establishment make it necessary to provide additional accommodation in certain stations. Stations have been selected for them so that units will in turn gain experience in all roles, *viz.*, field army, covering troops, and internal security duties.

(3) On the 31st March, 1934, there were 112 King's Commissioned Officers of Indian nationality serving in the units which are being Indianised. It is anticipated that 20 more of such officers who are undergoing their period of attachment to British units will be joining their regiments during 1934 and 11 in the following year. These are the last of the Indian officers to be trained at cadet colleges in England.

(4) The general policy adopted as regards the Indianisation of units entails the following steps :—

(*a*) the increase of the establishment of officers (exclusive of Viceroy's Commissioned Officers) to enable the new Indian officers, whether those already commissioned from Woolwich and Sandhurst or those to be commissioned from the Indian Military Academy, to join their units as Company Officers ;

(*b*) the introduction of warrant ranks into Indianising units in supersession of the present establishment of non-commissioned officers above the rank of havildar ; and

(*c*) the gradual elimination of Viceroy's Commissioned officers.

(5) The Indian officers to be commissioned from the Indian Military Academy will bear the title of ' Indian Commissioned officer ' and will receive Commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces.

(6) On passing out of the Indian Military Academy the cadets will be commissioned as 2nd-Lieutenants in the Special List, Indian Land Forces, and those going to the Cavalry and Infantry will be attached for a period of one year to a British infantry unit. Cadets going to other arms of the service will receive post-graduate training as follows :—

Artillery.—A four months' course at the School of Artillery, Kakul, and attachment to a Royal Field Artillery unit for one year.

Engineers.—A course of approximately three years at the Thomason College, Roorkee, followed by a six months' course with the King George's Own Sappers and Miners at that station.

Signals.—A course of eighteen months at the Signal Training School, followed by a qualifying course at the Army Signal School for three months and attachment to a non-Indianised Signal unit for six months.

(7) In view of what is stated above, promotion to the rank of Viceroy's Commissioned officer in Cavalry and Infantry units which are

Indianising will cease from the 1st January 1935 and Viceroy's Commissioned Officers in those units will be allowed to waste as from that date; but concurrently non-commissioned officers and warrant officers (when this category comes into being) of such units will become eligible for promotion to Viceroy's Commissioned rank in other battalions of their regiment or other regiments of their group. Any Viceroy's Commissioned Officers who become surplus as a result of Indianisation will be mustered out on the existing 'mustering out' terms.

(8) In connection with the formation of the Indian Corps of Artillery, the Secretary of State has agreed to the detailed proposals of the Government of India for the formation of the 1st Field Brigade of the Indian Regiment of Artillery. This will be brought into being about January 1935. The nucleus Indian personnel intended for the new Indian brigade have been attached to the 14th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, at Bangalore with which unit they are undergoing training. This unit is due for transfer to the Imperial establishment in January, 1935, and the new Indian Brigade will take its place. Two Indian King's Commissioned Officers who are attached to units of the Royal Artillery in India and another who will shortly be so attached will be transferred together with the personnel above mentioned to the new Indian brigade, and the rest of the officers required will be provided by volunteers from amongst officers of the Royal Artillery, who will be replaced gradually by Indian officers as they become available from the Indian Military Academy.

(9) The Indianisation of the 4th Indian Divisional Signals commenced with one Infantry Brigade Signal Section and the despatch riders of that unit.

(10) During the period under review, seventy-seven cadets were admitted to the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun. Of these thirty-four were successful at the two open competitive examinations held during the year, thirty-three were Indian Army cadets selected from the ranks of the Indian Army, Indian Territorial Force and Auxiliary Force, India, and ten were from the Indian States. The excess over the normal annual allotment of thirty cadets successful in the examination and thirty from the ranks of the Indian Army was due to the replacement of cadets withdrawn from the Academy. In order that Indians commissioned from the Academy, where the course lasts two and a half years, may not be at a disadvantage as compared with British officers commissioned from Woolwich and Sandhurst, where the course lasts one and a half years only, a general antedate up to one year was recommended for the approval of the Secretary of State.

(11) The number of candidates who appeared at the combined entrance examinations for admission to the Indian Military Academy and to the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, held in October 1933, and March 1934, respectively is two hundred and ninety-one respectively. All were interviewed by the Interview and Record Boards with the exception of one who withdrew during the earlier examination. Statements showing the distribution of the candidates at each examination both by communities and provinces are contained in Appendix II to this pamphlet. Extracts from the proceedings of the Interview and Record Boards at both the examinations will be found in the same Appendix,

It is considered that these will be of considerable interest as indicating the kind of training and education which it is desirable for a boy to possess before he undertakes the examination. It will be seen that many of the candidates appeared to have little or no idea of the conditions of life in the Army, and to have exhibited little previous interest in military matters. The number who had taken the opportunity of obtaining an insight into military life and training by joining the University Training Corps was disappointing. Action is now being taken to bring the defects mentioned in the above extracts to the notice of the authorities concerned.

(12) It was decided to recruit Indians holding the qualification of M. R. C. V. S. to the Indian Army Veterinary Corps instead of obtaining further British officers for the continuous service cadre of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps. The conditions of service of the new Indian officers were under consideration. The transfer of British other ranks to the Indian Army Service Corps was discontinued and Indian personnel is being recruited instead, while in the case of other Corps and Departments the process of Indianisation continues. It was also decided that when the existing British incumbents of the five civilian gazetted officers' appointments in the Indian Army Service Corps Records Office become none-effective one vacancy will be filled by a selected King's commissioned officer from the retired list, who will become 2nd-in-command under the officer-in-Charge, Records. The remaining vacancies will be filled by selection from amongst the Indian clerks of the Indian Army Service Corps, thereby giving them an opportunity of further advancement.

(13) The first unit of the Indian Air Force was formed at Karachi on the 1st April 1933 and consisted of a nucleus of Squadron Headquarters and one complete Flight of four aircraft. The necessary minimum number of British officers and airmen has been attached to the unit from its formation, and during the year under review the Flight was trained in Army co-operation duties and took part in the Sind Independent Brigade exercises. During the year four cadets were gazetted into the General Duties Branch after completing a two years' course at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell. One of these was posted to the Indian Air Force for duty after a period of attachment to a Royal Air Force unit in England, and the remaining three were still in England. Owing to an unfortunate flying accident on the 5th September 1933, two officers out of the five previously commissioned were killed. The position on 31st March 1934 was that four Indian officers of the General Duties Branch and one of the Stores Branch were serving with the Force and three officers were attached to Royal Air Force units in England. Three more cadets who were successful in a competitive examination held in this country proceeded to Cranwell in August 1933, the number of cadets there now being five. As the result of a further examination held in March 1934 two successful candidates have been selected and will enter the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, in September 1934. The training of apprentice mechanics and other classes of airmen proceeded and nearly 60 airmen personnel were on the strength of the first Squadron at the close of the period under review.

IV.—FINANCE.

(1) The revised budget estimate for the financial year 1933-34 was Rs. 44.42 crores. The budget estimate for 1934-35 was Rs. 44.38 crores. (A memorandum on the subject was issued to members of the Legislature by the Financial Adviser, Military Finance, in March 1934 at the time the budget was introduced.)

(2) *Capitation Rate Tribunal.*—In 1932, His Majesty's Government in agreement with the Government of India, appointed an advisory Tribunal under the Chairmanship of Sir Robert Garran to consider questions arising out of the incidence of the cost of India's defence expenditure, with special reference to the charges known as the capitation charges made by the War Office and Air Ministry in connection with the raising and training of British troops and airmen for service in India. Two members of the Tribunal, Lords Dunedin and Tomlin, were nominated by His Majesty's Government and two, Sir Shadi Lal and Sir Shah Muhammad Sulaiman, by the Government of India. The Tribunal assembled in London in November 1932 and submitted its report to the Prime Minister in January 1933.

After careful consideration, His Majesty's Government and the Government of India agreed to accept those recommendations of the Tribunal which were unanimous and to act on the recommendations of the majority where the conclusions were not unanimous. This involved acceptance by the Government of India of capitation charges calculated in accordance with the Tribunal's suggestions as a legitimate charge against Indian revenues, and the payment to India of a sum from British revenues towards the cost of India's defence expenditure. It was estimated that when certain adjustments had been made the net result would be a gain to India amounting to £1,417,000 a year.

V.—MEDICAL SERVICES.

In July 1933 a Committee was assembled at Army Headquarters to consider the organisation of the military medical services with particular reference to the organisation for war.

Later in the year a proposal was under consideration to appoint a senior officer on special duty to examine and report on the question of the future of the medical services in India as a whole, having regard not only to the impending constitutional changes but also to the recommendations of the earlier committee and to the effect on the military medical services in India of the decisions of His Majesty's Government on the report of the Committee presided over by Sir Warren Fisher, which recently inquired into the difficulties experienced in keeping the medical services of the three fighting services in the United Kingdom up to strength.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

(1) As the result of the Army Secretary's offer to discuss the grievances of soldiers disabled in the Great War, and of the dependants of deceased soldiers, made in the course of a debate in the Legislative Assembly on the 15th February 1933, an informal committee containing representatives of all non-official parties assembled during the summer

under the chairmanship of the Army Secretary. The recommendations of the Committee and the orders of Government thereon were published and are now in operation.

(2) The Secretary of State for India sanctioned the appointment of a Chief Technical Examiner of Works at Army Headquarters and the formation of a cadre of Surveyors of Works for the Military Engineer Services. This cadre will consist of Superintending Surveyors of Works and Surveyors of Works at Command and District Headquarters respectively, assisted by an appropriate establishment of Surveyors' Assistants (subordinate grade) at Command and District Headquarters and in Garrison Engineers' headquarters. The object of the new scheme is to assist the executive authorities, who are at present overburdened with office work, to ensure that works are carried out in the most economical way, that contracts are made on a scientific and accurate basis, that bills are accurately prepared and that Government receives in fact the work for which payment is made. It is probable that it will take at least six years to complete the cadre with professionally qualified personnel and to bring the scheme into full effect. The training of Indians will commence at the outset with a view to the gradual Indianisation of the cadre.

(3) Of recent years the situation regarding the housing of military officers in Cantonments has presented many difficulties. Rents of bungalows had shown a very steep rise with the result that Government was being put to heavy expense, amounting to about Rs. 14 lakhs in 1931 and increasing at a rate of some Rs. 2 lakhs per annum, as a result of the difference between the rents paid for houses taken on lease under the House Accommodation Act and the authorised recoveries from officers in respect of lodging allowance. In spite too of the heavy rents demanded, it was found that house owners were seriously neglecting the carrying out of adequate repairs, and many of the houses leased were in a most dilapidated condition. On the other hand owing largely to the amenities available in cantonments, civilians were showing an increasing tendency to prefer residence there and to buy houses, which they, as the owners, could not be asked under the House Accommodation Act to vacate. The result was that officers of the local garrisons for whom the houses in cantonments are primarily intended were gradually being crowded out. Efforts to induce house-owners to adopt a different attitude were fruitless, and Government were compelled in the year 1932 to decide to exercise their right of resuming a number of sites compulsorily on payment of full compensation for any authorised buildings standing thereon. This process continued during the year under review. It has already been applied in a number of cantonments and will probably have to be extended to others.

(4) As part of the retrenchment campaign of 1931, the organisation, establishment and terms of service of the Army in India Reserve of Officers have been reviewed, and a scheme of re-organisation has been prepared, which is now under examination by the Secretary of State. The main principles of the suggested re-organisation are as follows :—

(*i*) The Reserve will in future serve Indian Army units and services only, and not (as formerly) provide reserves also for British units of the Army in India.

(*ii*) The Reserve will be divided into two categories ; the first, comprising younger men, is allotted to fighting units only ; while the second will consist of older men, who by reason of their civil vocations are specially fitted for work with administrative services. The latter class will do no training in peace.

(*iii*) Indians will be recruited wherever suitable both for fighting units and for the administrative services.

(*iv*) Economies have been effected by reductions in establishments and retaining fees.

All serving Reserve officers affected will be addressed personally and invited to accept the new terms of service, and recruiting which has been suspended for the last three years, will be re-opened on receipt of the approval of the Secretary of State.

(5) A Hard Scale of rations for men and animals was designed for use on occasions when mobility demands a severe curtailment of transport. It is intended that the full field service scale will be resumed at the first opportunity and that the hard scale will not, unless in an extreme emergency, continue for more than a few consecutive days.

VII.—ROYAL AIR FORCE.

(1) The part taken by the Royal Air Force in active operations, and the progress of the Indian Air Force, have been described earlier in this pamphlet.

(2) No. 31 (Army Co-operation) Squadron carried out a test mobilisation move by road and air from Quetta to Pishin in four parties between the 14th and 16th May 1933, returning to Quetta on the 1st June. During the period the squadron was maintained as for active operations.

(3) Air Survey of the Waziristan, Black Mountain and Landi Kotal areas was completed.

(4) The following special flights were undertaken :—

(*a*) On the 25th October 1933, five aircraft flew from Risalpur to Gilgit by the Indus Valley route. The flight returned to Risalpur on the 28th October, and on the return flight took oblique photographs of Nanga Parbat.

(*b*) On the 1st December 1933, a flight of No. 27 (Bomber) Squadron accompanied by an aircraft of the Bomber Transport flight left Kohat for Rangoon on a long distance exercise flight, returning to Kohat on the 16th December.

(*c*) On the 1st February 1934, a flight of No. 11 (Bomber) Squadron accompanied by a Victoria aircraft of the Bomber Transport flight proceeded on a long distance exercise flight from Risalpur to Singapore. The aircraft returned to Risalpur on the 25th February.

(5) During the year, aircraft conveyed a number of Political and Military officers over tribal territory for reconnaissance purposes and also in connection with military manœuvres and operations.

(6) On the 4th May 1933, a Constabulary officer was conveyed by air from Drazinda to Peshawar to undergo an operation for appendicitis. On the 28th August, an officer of the 1st Royal Garhwal Rifles was flown from Hindubagh to Quetta as an urgent stretcher case. On the 13th October, a convalescent officer of the Royal Artillery was flown from Drosh to Risalpur.

(7) On the 24th January 1934, one Moth aircraft, one officer and two airmen proceeded to Patna to assist the Local Government in reconnoitring the area affected by the earthquake. Much valuable information regarding suitable landing grounds was obtained which will be of great assistance to the Bihar and Orissa Government in the future, and a number of photographs were taken of the devastated areas.

VIII.—ROYAL INDIAN MARINE.

(1) A new sloop which will be named "Indus" was under construction in the United Kingdom to replace the old Patrol vessel "Baluchi" which had become unseaworthy. The new vessel will be of the same type as H. M. I. sloop "Hindustan" with the latest Admiralty specifications. Sanction has been accorded to the recruitment of 33 additional ratings during 1934-35 with a view to their being trained in advance for employment on "Indus".

(2) In pursuance of the policy of Indianisation one officer of the Executive Branch and two officers of the Engineer Branch were actually in the service, while four officers of the former Branch and seven of the latter were under training.

(3) One cadetship in the executive branch was offered for competition among the cadets of the Indian Mercantile Training ship "Dufferin" at a special examination held for this purpose. Of the seven cadets who passed the Interview and Record Board, six were declared physically fit and four ultimately qualified at the written examination. The first of these four cadets, having also passed the final examination on the "Dufferin", was selected for appointment to the Royal Indian Marine and embarked for the United Kingdom for training in December 1933.

(4) In pursuance of the recommendations of a Committee appointed by the Flag Officer Commanding to report on the cadre, pay, etc., of personnel of the Service, the following action was taken :—

(*a*) The cadre of ratings was fixed at 1011 with effect from the 1st April 1934 and their pay was revised with a view to removing the various anomalies which existed in the previous rates ;

(*b*) The cadre and rates of pay of warrant writers and writers were revised ;

(c) The leave, leave allowances and leave passage concessions of Indian Warrant officers and ratings of the Royal Indian Marine were revised and the revision of the pension rules was taken up.

(5) In the hope that lower charges would induce Local Governments to send more work to the Bombay dockyard, it was decided to reduce the overhead charges on account of labour and materials in the dockyard from 40 per cent and 15 per cent respectively to 12½ per cent in each case for a period of two years with effect from the 1st April 1933.

(6) It was arranged that junior engineer officers should, like executive officers, receive six months training in ships of the East Indies Squadron of the Royal Navy as circumstances permit.

APPENDIX I.

I. The following units have been selected to be Indianised :—

Cavalry—

3rd Cavalry.

7th Light Cavalry.

16th Light Cavalry.

Engineers—

One Field Troop, Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners, No. 44 Division, H. Q. Company, Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 15 Fd. Coy., Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 5 Fd. Coy., K. G. O., Bengal Sappers and Miners.

No. 22 Fd. Coy., Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners.

Signals—

4th Cav. Bde., Signal Troop.

4th Ind. Div. Sigs.

Infantry—

2nd Battalion, 1st Punjab Regt.

5th Battalion, 2nd Punjab Regt.

5th Royal Battalion, 5th Mahratta L. I.

5th Battalion (Napier's), 6th Rajputana Rifles.

1st Battalion (Q. V. O. L. I.), 7th Rajput Regt.

5th Battalion (Burma), 8th Punjab Regt.

5th Battalion (K. G. O.), (Jacob's Rifles), 10th Baluch Regiment.

5th Battalion (Duke of Connaught's Own), 11th Sikh Regiment.

4th Battalion (Sikhs), 12th Frontier Force Regiment.

6th Royal Battalion (Scinde), 13th Frontier Force Rifles.

1st Battalion, 14th Punjab Regiment.

4th Battalion, 19th Hyderabad Regiment.

II. The following Indianised units are to be raised :

Artillery—Two Indian Field Brigades.

APPENDIX II.

October 1933 Examination.

Number of candidates by Communities—

Hindus	100
Muslims	53
Sikhs	26
Christians	8
Anglo-Indians	7
Europeans	3
Parsis	2
Jews	1
Total	200

Number of candidates by Provinces—

Punjab	86
United Provinces	30
Bombay	13
N.-W. F. Province	12
Delhi	8
Madras	7
Punjab States	6
Bengal	5
Central Provinces	6
Kashmir State	4
Bihar and Orissa	4
Baluchistan	3
Burma	2
Assam	2
Western India States	2
Gwalior State	1
Rajputana State	3
Mysore State	1
Hyderabad State	1
Andamans	1
Madras States	1
Central India States	2
Total	200

MARCH 1934 EXAMINATION.

Number of candidates by Communities—

Hindus—	
Brahmins	12
Kshatriyas	19
Kayasthas	4
Vashiyas	4
Mahrattas	1
Others (caste not specified)	7
Muslims	18
Sikhs	16
Parsis	2
Indian Christians	2
Anglo-Indians and Domiciled Europeans	5
Jains	1
Total	91

Number of candidates by Provinces—	
Punjab	44
United Provinces	11
Bombay	7
Bengal	5
Madras	4
Central Provinces	3
N. W. F. Province	2
Delhi	2
Burma	1
States—	
Patiala	3
Hyderabad	2
Kashmir	2
Jind	2
Kolhapur	1
Bhopal	1
Sangli	1
Gwalior	1
Total	91

These figures are based on the statements of the candidates concerning their Provinces or State of origin.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Interview and Record Board at the October 1933 Examination.

In regard to the quality of the candidates as a whole, there is nothing very new or original to be recorded. On the other hand, the recent examination is the fourth that has been held under the new system, so that some of the opinions formed by the Board may be regarded as having an application that goes beyond the particular occasion to which they relate. In the present case, the Board had the satisfaction of having before them a small number of candidates whom they regard as exceptionally suitable, and to whom they awarded the maximum of marks. Following these came a considerably larger number of good first-class candidates, the best of them not much inferior to the best ones, and, thereafter, a somewhat smaller number of what might be described as good second-class. The total of all three of the above classes is rather above forty. Below these last the deterioration was marked, and the "tail" again comprised a great number of candidates who, both physically and mentally, appeared to be utterly unsuited for the career of a commissioned officer in the Indian Army. The number of these was so large that the Board would like to see something done to obviate the trouble and expense of examining large numbers of unsuitable candidates and to spare such candidates and their parents both expense and disappointment. On the other hand, they are informed that the right of unrestricted or "open" entry to the examination is prized by the public at large, and that,

as regards the appearance of a large number of *ab initio* hopeless candidates, the position of the Indian Military Academy examination is not very different from that of several others.

There is no doubt that much of this poor material presents itself owing to ignorance—ignorance on the part of teachers as much as pupils and parents. There is evidently a paucity of schools of the right type, and many headmasters, and others, on whom it devolves to prepare and to report on candidates, seem to have themselves no clear idea of what life in the Army means, and have probably never had personal knowledge of a single military officer. The Board desire to make it clear that they intend no reproach in mentioning the existence of what is, in many cases, an unavoidable disability. But if more headmasters were well informed on these matters, they would probably dissuade a considerable number of unsuitable candidates from coming forward. Still less would they record the often extravagantly laudatory reports that seem to be so little warranted by the subjects of them. The faults, however, are not all on the side of the teachers. Many candidates profess the greatest ardour for a military career, and the "active, outdoor life" it is thought to connote ; in spite of this, they have never made the slightest effort to acquire even the most elementary facts about the Army, to join the University Training Corps, or even to go and look at soldiers in stations where facilities existed. To stimulate more practical interest, it seems desirable that intending candidates should be taught something about the Indian Army and its history, while colleges might make available to them the English edition of the "*Fauji Akhbar*", or any handbooks giving information of a simple kind. Lectures by distinguished military or other visitors might be made to serve the same purpose. The ignorance of realities on the part of many of these youths sprung from the non-fighting classes is often pathetic, not the less so when it is accompanied by poor physique. The stock reason given by such lads is a desire to "serve King and Country" or "to lead an open, outdoor, adventurous life", and so on. One searches in vain, however, for any concrete ideas present in the minds of those who give such facile expression to these commonplaces. The physique of many candidates of this type is deplorably poor, and it is obvious that the prudent recommendation in the rules for the obtaining of a previous medical opinion as to general physical suitability is too seldom acted upon.

The standard of knowledge of English, particularly colloquial English, still leaves much to be desired, although there are, of course, not a few exceptions. Occasionally it happens that lack of contact with Englishmen may be responsible for a youth's making a poorer showing than his book knowledge and attainments warrant. Again, many candidates are abysmally ignorant when asked about things that are, so to speak, off their brief. The names of countries or great cities, famous men in past or present times, important topics of today and yesterday—indeed many things which one would regard as the most ordinary stock-in-trade of any intelligent youth of 18 or 20 years—have often never been heard of. Yet most of the candidates admit reading one or more newspapers, and so, one would think, ought to lay a sort of foundation of general knowledge even if it were not a very extensive one. But in this respect many of them are completely bankrupt. Of natural curiosity there is far too little, and the idea of acquiring, or extending, knowledge on their own account is one that presents itself to the minds of comparatively few. A somewhat unpleasing variation of the above defect is the attempt many candidates make to deal with a simple question they cannot answer by a flow of words. A sufficiency of words is evidently thought to cover up a poverty of ideas, and the Board is offered almost everything except the straightforward answer the question calls for. The holding of preliminary tests in *viva voce* would seem to be as necessary as in written papers and many candidates would make a better showing if they had been taught that it pays to answer straightforwardly and not to feign knowledge where none exists.

Time and the hard experience of results will doubtless play their part in curing the defects dealt with above—at least to a considerable degree. Even now there is a noticeable tendency for parents to send their boys, if only for a few months, to institutions which conduct 'Army Classes', or which at least appreciate, and aim at producing, the type of youth who is required for the Army. This is to be welcomed, since it is manifest that in many cases the candidates have never, in the whole course of their schooling, received the personal attention and guidance they require. Many of them appear to be flung bodily into large educational institutions—colleges and universities—and are left there to "sink or swim". The growing recognition that this will not do is to be welcomed, and institutions where training—mental and physical—is blended with the requisite personal supervision and interest, seem likely to come more and more into favour. The boys from the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun, again afforded an apt illustration of the improvement that can be effected in this important respect.

The Interview and Record Board are impressed with the fact that candidates offering Science subjects have, almost without exception, failed to join the University Training Corps. The excuse, given with equally monotonous regularity, is that practical laboratory work has to be done at the time parades are held. The Board see no reason to doubt the validity of this, and they recommend that something be done to bring this palpably unsatisfactory state of affairs to the notice of all educational institutions where University Training Corps exist.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Record and Interview Board at the March 1934 Examination.

The number of candidates was less than half of that for any of the previous examinations, except March, 1933, when the number was 131. In July 1932, there would have been more than 400 candidates if steps had not been taken to admit only the most promising ones. The Board do not feel justified in doing more than suggesting that the following causes might have operated to produce this falling off in numbers :—The prevailing economic depression and the fact that in March and April a large number of academic examinations are in progress and candidates for the Military Academy may, therefore, prefer to compete in October, when there are no such examinations.

Even with this diminished number there were, in the opinion of the Board far too many candidates who had obviously no chance of success and were quite unsuited for a military career. The Board are unable to add any suggestions to those which were made in the report on the October examination with the object of reducing the number of unsuitable candidates.

The Board noticed, as did the Board in the last October examination, that the tendency for parents to send their sons (though in some cases only for a few months) to Institutions which conduct army classes is increasing.

Several of the defects noticed in certain candidates at the October examination were also in evidence in the last examination. Many of the candidates who spoke English reasonably well appeared to have great difficulty in understanding what was said to them by the English members of the Board. This state of affairs appears likely to continue, since the number of Englishmen on the staff of schools and colleges in India is steadily on the wane. A great many candidates were completely ignorant of the nature of the duties of an officer in the Army or in the Air Force and of the kind of life which he would have to lead. Some candidates gave as their reason for wishing to join the Air Force their belief that "it is a good thing to be up in the air". On the other hand, there

were two who had obtained Pilot's Certificates "A" and others who had at any rate flown as passengers.

As in previous examinations, many candidates who had taken Science subjects in college said that they were unable to join the University Training Corps, because practical work in the laboratory had to be done at the time when parades were held. There was, however, one candidate from Allahabad University who competed for both the Military Academy and Air Force, and, in spite of his being a Science student with a very distinguished academic career, had done well in the University Training Corps.

L89AD—350—29-8-34—GIPS

With the compliments of the Secretary, Army I

A Summary of Important Matters connected with the Defence Services in India 1934-35.

In order to oppose the enforcement of these conditions, the Faqir of Alingar raised a *lashkar* and with some 200 tribesmen, including the notorious outlaw Faghfur, crossed the Swat River into the Loe Agra area.

An air demonstration was carried out on the 21st February by five squadrons of the Royal Air Force and on the 23rd February the Nowshera Brigade and attached troops concentrated at Kalangai. During the occupation of a camp piquet at Kalangai in which aircraft co-operated, some opposition was encountered from the *lashkar*, resulting in three men of the Guides being wounded, of whom one subsequently died. Three of the enemy were reported to have been killed and 17 wounded.

The column advanced and reached Loe Agra on the 25th February. The troops were welcomed by the Loe Agra *jirga*, and the Faqir's *lashkar* retired across the Swat River. The Faqir moved to Bajaur where he started to recruit a fresh *lashkar* and the troops were withdrawn to their peace stations.

The Faqir succeeded in raising another *lashkar* of some 800 tribesmen and on the 5th March again crossed the Swat into the Loe Agra area. The Nowshera Column was again moved up to the Malakand and arrived at Agra on the 10th March without opposition. The *lashkar* retired across the river, and the Nowshera Column returned to its peace station leaving behind a battalion in the neighbourhood of Bargholai, some 5 miles south of Loe Agra, and another battalion at Kot.

The remainder of this episode falls outside the period under review, but may be narrated here. The Faqir continued his recruiting campaign and raised yet another *lashkar* of some 900 tribesmen which crossed the Swat River on the 4th April. On the night of the 5th April this *lashkar* made a determined attack on a piquet consisting of one company and one machine gun platoon of the 3/2nd Punjab Regiment north of Bargholai. The attack was repulsed, the tribesmen losing at least 18 killed and 4 wounded, while casualties to the piquet were one Indian other rank killed and one subedar and five Indian other ranks wounded.

The Nowshera Column was concentrated at Bargholai on the 9th April and advanced to Loe Agra on the 11th April, one Indian other rank being wounded. During this operation Mr. Best, the Political Agent, with the column, was killed and some levies wounded.

The *lashkar* retired across the Swat River by the 12th April and began to disperse.

During these operations reconnaissance was provided daily by aircraft of No. 20 (Army Co-operation) Squadron Royal Air Force. Aircraft were frequently fired on and took retaliatory action. In addition offensive flights with bombs and machine guns were carried out against enemy in the open.

A road fit for mechanical transport was constructed from Kot to Loe Agra and on 12th June the regular troops were withdrawn to their peace stations, the defence of the area being entrusted to the Frontier Constabulary.

(4) *Peshawar District.*—At dawn on the 26th January a raid was carried out by the North West Frontier constabulary on three Gadun villages close to the border in the Swabi area, which had long been harbouring outlaws. The 2/15th Punjab Regiment co-operated in the operation which was successfully concluded without casualties. Five outlaws surrendered and another, who resisted, was killed.

(5) *Kohat District.*—The Guzdarra Valley in the Shiah Salient near Kohat is claimed as a grazing ground by two different sections of Orakzais and its ownership has been a cause of friction in recent years. The political authorities arranged this year to close the valley to both parties pending an amicable settlement. To support the frontier constabulary in keeping the valley closed, a battalion and a mountain battery were despatched from Kohat to Kachai on the 23rd November. No untoward incident occurred and the troops returned to their peace station.

(6) *Chitral reliefs.*—The biennial relief of the Chitral garrison took place in September and October 1934. The relieving battalion moved up in September without incident. The Faqir of Alingar, however, raised a *lashkar* of 1,000 tribesmen, chiefly Shamozai, to oppose the downward march of the column.

On the 9th October a small party of this *lashkar* crossed the Panjkora River from Bajaur, but were driven back by the Nawab of Dir's levies supported by the Royal Air Force.

On the 12th October the Chitral Column was sniped at long range from across the Panjkora River, but retaliatory action taken by the artillery with the column and the Royal Air Force caused the tribesmen to disperse. It is reported that the *lashkar* suffered some 40 casualties in the action.

(7) *Operations in the Wa States.*—The Wa States, which are situated in the Northern Shan States, north east of Mandalay, and east of the Salween River, have, up to the present, been unadministered. Punitive and exploring expeditions have, however, entered the area in the past. The frontier, about 100 miles in length, between the Wa States and the Chinese Province of Yunnan is undemarcated. A boundary commission set up by the British and Chinese Governments in 1900 broke down mainly on a difference of opinion as to the location of a peak, a key point on the frontier, as laid down in a Convention signed by the British and Chinese Governments in 1894. The British view is that the frontier runs in an eastward loop, about 50 miles in depth, known as the Scott Line. The Chinese claim the territory within the loop, the boundary they claim being known as the Liuchen Line.

Late in January, 1934, a party of mining experts escorted by a column of Burma Military Police, visited Lufang, a Wa village, some 30 miles south-east of the Kunglong Ferry over the Salween River and on the Burma side of the Liuchen Line. On hearing of this expedition, the Chinese, resenting its activities, incited the local Was and skirmishes between the Burma Military Police and the Was took place in February. These incidents were followed by the appearance of bodies of Chinese irregulars. These irregulars were disowned by the Government of Yunnan, but this was in accordance with the usual Chinese custom and there was undeniable evidence that they had an official standing.

Later Chinese troops crossed the Liuchen Line, and on the 30th May, a collision took place with a column of Burma Military Police. The Chinese lost 32 killed and many wounded. The Burma Military Police had no casualties. On the 18th June several hundred Chinese attacked a friendly village on the Burma side of the Liuchen line. They were promptly engaged by a column of Burma Military Police, and repulsed with the loss of 60 killed and wounded. The Police casualties were one man wounded. A few raids took place during the summer but these were mainly the activities of Chinese bandits. The Chinese irregulars, finding it impossible to maintain themselves in the forward areas during the rainy season, withdrew and have not since re-appeared.

On the first indication of trouble the British forces in the area were increased to about 900 Burma Military Police. The only regular troops employed were a section of the 10th Mountain Battery, Royal Artillery, which was moved up from Maymyo to Hopang. Two companies of the 1/20th Burma Rifles were moved from Maymyo to Lashio to release the Burma Military Police there for employment in the forward areas, and No. 10 Field Company, Q. V. O. Sappers and Miners, was sent to Lashio to assist in maintaining the line of communication to the forward area, which is difficult to keep open during the rains.

It has now been agreed to set up a fresh Boundary Commission, with a neutral Chairman appointed by the League of Nations, to define the undemarcated boundary. It is hoped that it will begin work in December.

ARMY.

II.—ORGANISATION AND EQUIPMENT.

The following changes which took place during the past year are of interest :—

(*a*) The separate Waziristan Medium Section, Royal Artillery, located at Razmak, was abolished, its duties being taken over by a section of the medium artillery battery stationed at Ferozepore.

(*b*) The Royal Artillery field brigade allotted to the Covering Troops and stationed at Nowshera was re-organised on a mechanised basis.

(*c*) A third Armoured Car Company was re-armed with light tanks and converted into a Light Tank Company.

(*d*) A total of 1,200 of the new Vickers-Berthier machine guns had been received or were on their way to India. This enabled all cavalry regiments to be re-equipped and the replacement of Lewis guns in infantry battalions was begun. The manufacture of the gun in the Indian Ordnance Factories has now commenced and ultimately all India's requirements in this respect will be provided locally.

(*e*) To enable all load-carrying vehicles to be used for the conveyance of sick in the field, an arrangement within the vehicle for carrying stretchers was approved. The design approved permits of complete independence for each of the four stretchers and of individual

loading and unloading. Each upper stretcher is slung from the lorry superstructure and the two lower stretchers are secured to the floor of the lorry.

(*f*) Experiments were in progress with compression-ignition engines for mechanical transport to see if they had reached a sufficient state of development to permit of their adoption for Service use in India.

(*g*) 1,750 sets of the oil cooking equipment which was described in last year's summary were manufactured, and issue to units began.

(*h*) Until this year the flannel for the grey flannel shirts used by the Army had to be imported. A civilian firm in India having established the manufacture of this material up to the required standard, a trial order was placed with the firm, which proved satisfactory. The establishment of the manufacture of an article like this in India renders possible a reduction in the war reserve stocks of the material which the Army have to hold if the material is not made in the country.

III.—INDIANISATION.

1. It is perhaps desirable as a start to recapitulate the following facts regarding the Government's policy in connection with the Indianisation of the Army :—

(*a*) The accepted policy aims as a preliminary at the Indianisation of the units which normally go to constitute one division of all arms (including ancillary services) and one cavalry brigade. This entails the Indianisation of certain existing units and the raising of new units of certain other arms (*e.g.*, Artillery), of which no Indian units existed previously.

(*d*) The units now in process of Indianisation are detailed in Appendix I. These units will move in relief in the normal manner except that in the case of the larger units (*e.g.*, Cavalry regiments and infantry battalions) differences in establishment make it necessary to provide additional accommodation in certain stations. Stations have been selected for them so that units will in turn gain experience in all roles, *viz.*, field army, covering troops and internal security duties.

(*e*) The general policy adopted as regards the Indianisation of units entails the following steps :—

(*i*) the increase of the establishment of officers (exclusive of Viceroy's commissioned officers) to enable the new Indian officers, whether commissioned from Woolwich and Sandhurst or from the Indian Military Academy, to join their units as troop or platoon commanders ;

(*ii*) the gradual elimination of Viceroy's commissioned officers ; and

(*iii*) the introduction of warrant ranks into Indianising units in supersession of the present establishment of non-commissioned officers above the rank of havildar.

(*d*) Indian officers commissioned from the Indian Military Academy will bear the title of 'Indian commissioned officers' and will receive commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces.

The legal status of these officers was provided by the Indian Army (Amendment) Act which was passed by the Central Legislature after heated discussion in the Simla Session, 1934. This measure was attacked chiefly because it was felt that the status it was proposed to give these officers was inferior to that of British officers of the Indian Army. Its opponents sought to pass an amendment designed to give the former exactly the same status and powers of command in the Indian Army as are possessed by British officers. Against this it was pointed out that the new type of commission followed the Dominion model and was thus in keeping with Indian aspirations, that neither the British nor the Indian Army Act had anything to do with powers of command, which were governed by King's Regulations, and that the amendment trespassed upon the King's prerogative. Further a promise was given that, when the measure became law, the necessary amendments would be made to King's Regulations, to provide for complete equality within the Indian Army as between the British officer and the Indian commissioned officer and to delegate power to the Commander-in-Chief and subordinate commanders in India to authorise the latter to exercise powers of command over British personnel of the British Army in India wherever necessary. The promised amendments to King's Regulations have since been issued.

(*e*) The same form of commission is being granted to Indian officers of the Indian Army Veterinary Corps and to Indian officers of the Indian Medical Service commissioned after the 1st January 1935.

(*f*) On passing out of the Indian Military Academy, cadets are commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants in the Special List, Indian Land Forces, and those going to the cavalry and infantry are attached for a period of one year to a British infantry unit. Cadets going to other arms of the Service receive post-graduate training as follows :—

Artillery.—A four months' course at the School of Artillery, Kakul, and attachment to a Royal Field Artillery unit for one year.

Engineers.—A course of approximately three years at the Thomason College, Roorkee, followed by a six months' course with the King George's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners at that station.

Signals.—A course of eighteen months at the Signal Training School, followed by a qualifying course at the Army Signal School for three months and attachment to a non-Indianising unit for six months.

2. Forty-two cadets were admitted to the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, for the term which commenced on the 31st January 1935. Of these, nineteen were candidates successful at a competitive examination held in October 1934; twenty were Indian Army cadets selected from the

ranks ; and three were from Indian States. The excess over the normal half-yearly allotment of fifteen competitive cadets and fifteen Indian Army cadets resulted from the replacement of withdrawals from the Academy.

A final passing out examination was conducted in December 1934, by external examiners, for those cadets who had completed the Academy course of 2½ years. The competitive and Indian Army cadets who took this examination constitute the first batch of Indian gentlemen to receive commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces from the Indian Military Academy.

Twenty-nine cadets were examined, and all passed successfully. Of these, twelve were competitive cadets ; ten were Indian Army cadets ; and seven were from Indian States. Of the twentytwo competitive and Indian Army cadets who were successul, nineteen will be posted to cavalry or infantry after a year's attachment to British infantry units ; two are due to be posted to Engineers and one to Artillery. The two aspirants for the Engineer Service passed the entrance examination for admission to the Thomason College, Roorkee, where they will undergo part of their post-graduate course.

3. The number of candidates who appeared at the October 1934 entrance examination for admission to the Indian Military Academy was two hundred and six, of whom two hundred and one were interviewed by the Interview and Record Board, the other five having dropped out. Statements showing the distribution of the candidates at this examination both by communities and provinces are contained in Appendix II to this pamphlet. Extracts from the proceedings of the Interview and Record Board at this examination will be found in the same Appendix.

4. While half the vacancies at the Academy each term are filled by means of the open examination, the other half are filled by cadets drawn from the ranks of the Indian Army. Surprise appears to be felt in some quarters that some of these cadets, after having once been accepted for the Academy, should fail to receive commissions. A few words as to their selection and training may therefore not come amiss.

The task of selecting suitable soldiers for training to become Indian Army Cadets falls on Commanding Officers of units, who pick out the most promising of their young men for the purpose. They cannot, however, do much more than arrange for their education on progressive lines and assist them towards the elements of leadership by granting them acting rank as non-commissioned officers ; for at this stage these aspirants are still undeveloped both mentally and physically and their earlier education has as a rule done nothing to develop their character and powers of leadership. Apart from this, the fundamental need of most of them is instruction in English and they have to spend a very large portion of their time in school. This does not render any easier the Commanding Officer's task of making a selection from among these partially developed lads. When once he has made his choice, he forwards it to the Brigade, District and Army Commanders, each of whom in turn interviews

and tests the candidates recommended by the various units until finally Command lists containing all the names recommended in order of priority are submitted for His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to make his selection. Thus everything possible is done to ensure that only the best are admitted to the Academy, but the task is by no means simple.

Up to this point the aspirants have been viewed against a regimental background chiefly by officers whose first duty is to keep the unit as a whole fit for war. When the successful ones reach the Academy, they enter a much more specialised atmosphere which is calculated to bring to notice every detail of their personalities. They are closely observed, almost hour by hour, throughout the whole of their career there by a staff of specially selected officers. A careful study is made of each individual's general ability, character and intelligence. They are now seen among a large number of other young Indians all under the same conditions, and for the first time it becomes possible to say with certainty whether they are likely to develop adequate powers of leadership. No one knows the essential qualifications of an officer better than the Commandant, and when he has decided, sometimes after allowing him an extra term to prove himself, that an individual does not possess them, it would merely be lowering the standard of efficiency in the Indian Army to give such an individual a commission.

5. On the 31st March 1935 there were one hundred and thirty-eight King's commissioned officers of Indian nationality with cavalry and infantry units under Indianisation, three with Artillery and one each with Signals and Sappers and Miners, while seven aspirants for the Engineer Service were still doing their post-graduate training. These figures include all those who received their initial training at Woolwich or Sandhurst.

6. The first Indian officer graduated at the Staff College, Quetta, to which he had been nominated by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

7. The Secretary of State sanctioned the appointment of Indians who have qualified as Ms. R. C. V. S. in England, to commissions in the Indian Army Veterinary Corps to count against vacancies caused by wastage in the continuous service cadre of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps. In pursuance of this policy three Indian gentlemen were appointed against existing vacancies with effect from 16th March 1935. A scheme for further Indianisation of the Indian Army Veterinary Corps was under consideration.

8. The Indian Regiment of Artillery came into being at Bangalore on the 15th January 1935 with the formation of " A " Field Brigade. A recommendation has been made to the Secretary of State that its batteries should be designated the 1st (Madras) Field Battery and the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Field Batteries. On the same date the 14th (Reinforcement) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery left India without relief. Two King's commissioned Indian officers trained at Woolwich were available for this brigade on its formation and the remaining officer establishment was completed by the secondment of Royal Artillery officers who had volunteered for the purpose.

Recruits are now being enlisted to complete the brigade to its authorised peace establishment and it is hoped that the full establishment will be reached by the 1st May 1936.

9. The Indianisation of the 4th Indian Divisional Signals was continued by the Indianisation of a second infantry brigade signal section.

A start was made on the Indianisation of the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop by the raising of the headquarters and visual section from cadre to a provisional Indianised establishment.

10. The following consolidated rates of pay were sanctioned with effect from the 1st February 1935, for Indian officers commissioned into the Indian Army (Special List, Indian Land Forces) from the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun :—

	Rs. (per mensem).
2nd Lieutenant	300
Lieutenant	350
Lieutenant after 3 years and 9 months' service as such ..	400
Captain	450
Captain after 2 years' service as such	500
Captain after 4 years' service as such	550
Captain after 6 years' service as such	600
Captain after 8 years' service as such	650
Major	800
Lieutenant-Colonel in command	1,200

An officer appointed second-in-command will in addition receive additional pay of Rs. 50 per mensem. The question of technical or corps pay for such of these officers as qualify for engineers or signals was being considered.

11. The following rates of pay were approved for Indian commissioned officers of the Indian Army Veterinary Corps :—

Rank.	Rs. (per mensem).
Lieutenant	440
Captain	495
Captain after 2 years' service as such	550
Captain after 4 years' service as such	605
Captain after 6 years' service as such	660
Captain after 8 years' service as such	715

Rates of pay for majors and senior ranks were still under consideration.

12. In accordance with the decision previously announced to eliminate the Viceroy's commissioned officers from such units promotion to the rank of jemadar in Indianising cavalry and infantry units ceased from the 1st January 1935. Personnel of these units became eligible, however, from that date for such promotion in the non-Indianising units of the group or regiment.

13. A further proposal was accepted for the replacement of a proportion of the British non-commissioned officer establishment in Arsenals by Indian Assistant Storekeepers and Indians will now be recruited for 8⅓ per cent. of the strength of Military Assistant Storekeepers.

This is in addition to the scheme previously announced under which every fourth vacancy in the cadre of British non-commissioned officers is filled by an Indian.

14. The leave admissible to Indian commissioned officers, as to British officers of the Indian Army, will be of four kinds :—

(*i*) Casual leave, which will ordinarily be limited to ten days at a time at the discretion of the station commander ;

(*ii*) privilege leave, which will normally be restricted to two months in any one year, though three months will be admissible to officers serving in, and who proceed on leave direct from, certain concessional areas and stations ;

(*iii*) leave on medical certificate which will be admissible in the first instance up to six months including any privilege leave due. Provided that there is a reasonable prospect of the officer's becoming fit to return to duty, extensions by three months at a time may be granted up to a total of three years' absence from duty, after which an officer will be compulsorily retired. Full pay will be admissible for the privilege leave portion of the first six months and 2/3rd rates of pay for the balance. Half rates of pay will be admissible for the period in excess of six months up to two years and thereafter no pay will be admissible ; and

(*iv*) special leave which will be limited to six months, including privilege leave due. Half pay will be admissible for the balance. This leave will only be granted by General Officers Commanding-in-Chief to enable officers to visit England or other countries, to undertake shooting expeditions to distant regions, or for other adequate reasons. Any extension will require the sanction of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and will be without pay.

These rules follow the general principles laid down for the grant of leave to British officers of the Indian Army.

15. Special travelling concessions have been granted to the Indian commissioned officer when he proceeds on leave. For the purpose of these concessions an officer's service will be divided into periods of five years. A sum of Rs. 375 will be credited to his leave travelling account at the commencement of each five year period. He will be permitted to draw up to this amount, but will not be allowed to draw more on account of a journey than the actual cost of his personal fare by road, rail, river, or sea, including the cost of excess baggage. Any unexpended balance in the account at the expiry of each five year period will lapse to Government. Travelling concessions will not be admissible to families.

Officers granted leave on medical certificate will be entitled to free conveyance to any place in India recommended by the medical board and the cost of such conveyance will not be debited to their leave travelling account.

IV.—FINANCE.

The Budget for 1935-36 was fixed at Rs. 44·91 crores exclusive of Rs. 7 lakhs for the expansion of the Indian Territorial Force. The increase of Rs. 61 lakhs over the budget for 1934-35 was mainly due to the restoration of the emergency cut of 5 per cent. in pay and allowances which was restored with effect from the pay earned after the 31st March 1935.

V.—MEDICAL SERVICES.

1. Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie, C.I.E., a senior I. C. S. officer, was placed on special duty to examine and report on the whole question of the future of the medical services in India in the light not only of the impending constitutional changes, but also of the recommendations of the committee which sat in 1933, to consider the military medical organisation in India and of the Warren Fisher Committee which enquired in the same year into the difficulties experienced in keeping the medical services of the three fighting services in the United Kingdom up to strength. Mr. Ogilvie's report, which was presented in September 1934, was under consideration in consultation with local Governments.

2. It was decided, with the approval of the Secretary of State, that any person possessing an Indian medical qualification recognised under Section 11 (1) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933, and registered in British India under one of the Provincial Medical Acts is eligible for appointment to the Indian Medical Service.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

1. During the Great War the cadre of Indian Army officers was considerably expanded to meet the needs of the situation. After the war a large number of these additional officers were no longer required and were disposed of between the end of the war and the year 1922, but owing to the large number of casualties which had occcurred among the pre-war officers it was impossible to space out the post-war cadre in such a way as to ensure an even turnover from year to year. In fact it was necessary to retain an entirely disproportionate number of officers who obtained their first commissions between 1914 and 1920. More than one attempt was made after 1922, to bring this section of the cadre down to nearer its normal strength, but it was only recently, when there had been built up a reasonably large number of post-war officers junior to them, that it was really possible to undertake a drastic reduction in their number. For this purpose it was decided to eliminate from the active list some 400 officers during the next 6 years and special terms have been sanctioned for them. These officers will not be wholly lost to the Army as they will be transferred to a Special Unemployed List until they attain the age of 50 during which period they will be liable to recall in an emergency.

2. A modified time scale of promotion was introduced for officers of the Indian Army with effect from September 1934. Officers commissioned before that date receive promotion to captain after 9 years', to major after 18 years

and to lieutenant-colonel after 26 years' service, subject to their being qualified for such promotion. Under the modified scheme there will be a fixed establishment in each rank. A lieutenant will not be promoted to captain until he has completed 9 years' service for promotion, but he will, if he has not already been promoted to captain in the fixed establishment, be promoted to captain on the completion of 11 years' service for promotion whether or not there is a vacancy in the establishment of captains. Similarly a captain will not be promoted to major until he has completed 16 years' service for promotion, but he will, if he has not already been promoted to major in the fixed establishment, be promoted to major on the completion of 20 years' service for promotion whether or not there is a vacancy in the establishment of majors. Promotion to lieutenant-colonel will be by selection to fill vacancies in a fixed establishment. This modified scale is applicable to all officers, British and Indian, commissioned after 30th September 1934.

3. The re-organisation of the Army in India Reserve of Officers to which reference was made in last year's summary was approved with effect from the 1st January 1935, and recruitment, which had been suspended for some time while the new proposals were under consideration, was re-opened from that date. In future the Reserve will only serve Indian units and its establishment has been reduced from 1,850 to 1,468, certain categories being entirely abolished. The actual strength of the Reserve naturally fell considerably while recruiting was suspended and it only mustered 799 officers against the sanctioned establishment at the end of the period under review.

4. The shortage of accommodation suitable for officers still continued in many cantonments, but a definite improvement was noticeable during the year as a result of the steps taken by Government to acquire and rehabilitate a number of bungalows which the landlords would not keep in a proper condition or for which they insisted on asking exorbitant rents. Many landlords in other cantonments have taken warning from this action and have shown a greater inclination to carry out their duties as such in a reasonable spirit. During 1934-35 Government sanctioned for the third year in succession a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs to enable acquisition operations to be carried on in those cantonments where conditions were particularly bad.

5. A scheme for the re-organisation of the Cantonments Department was under consideration. Its main features are the abolition of the official military Executive Officers and their replacement by Civilian Executive Officers paid from cantonment funds. Some of the former officers will be used to create a separate Lands Branch and to increase the inspectorial staff of the Cantonments Department for the better management of Government lands. These changes depend on the passage of the Cantonments (Amendment) Bill which is now before the Legislature.

VII.—ROYAL AIR FORCE.

(1) The part taken by the Royal Air Force in active operations has been described earlier in this pamphlet.

(2) Air co-operation was carried out during the collective training season by Royal Air Force units with the troops in the four Army Commands, and

aircraft also co-operated in live shell practice with the 8th Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery, and with H. M. S. "Colombo" during her visit to Karachi.

(3) Air surveys were carried out in Dir Kohistan, Tirah and other portions of the North West Frontier.

(4) The following special flights were undertaken :—

(*a*) From the 9th to the 21st May 1934 two aircraft of No. 28 (Army Co-operation) Squadron were engaged on a reconnaissance of a trans-India route.

(*b*) On the 5th November 1934 a flight of five aircraft from No. 39 (Bomber) Squadron flew to Gilgit by the Indus Valley route, returning to Peshawar on the 8th November.

(*c*) On the 29th November 1934 one flight of No. 60 (Bomber) Squadron left Kohat for Singapore on an exercise flight. On the outward journey one aircraft crashed near Alor Star, and the pilot and passenger escaped by parachutes. The flight returned to Kohat on the 21st December 1934.

(*d*) On the 2nd January 1935 twelve Hart aircraft of No. 11 (Bomber) Squadron left Risalpur for Singapore on an exercise flight. On the outward journey one aircraft was damaged at Dacca and did not continue the flight, but returned to Risalpur after repair. The eleven other aircraft completed both journeys successfully, returning to Risalpur on the 24th January.

(5) An order was placed for two Valentia aircraft for the Bomber Transport Flight. The existing Victoria was under conversion to the Valentia type, and when the new machines arrive and the conversion is complete, the three aircraft comprising the flight will all be of one type.

(6) Orders were issued for the re-armament of No. 20 (Army Co-operation) Squadron with Hawker Audax aircraft.

VIII.—INDIAN AIR FORCE.

(1) The first flight of the Indian Air Force, consisting of the nucleus of a Squadron Headquarters and one complete flight, which was first formed in April 1933, continued its training under the supervision of the necessary minimum number of British officers and airmen. Its members received instruction in ground and air training as well as in educational and technical subjects, and during January 1935 it co-operated with the Sind Brigade.

(2) During the year one officer resigned his commission and another was dismissed from the service, so that at its close there were five officers of the General Duties Branch, and one of the Stores Branch at duty in India, while one officer of the former Branch was on his way to India after a period of attachment to a Royal Air Force unit in England for training prior to joining for duty in India.

(3) Of the Indian cadets at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, two fell out during the year and four were still under training.

(4) The training of apprentice mechanics and other classes of Airmen was continued and at the end of the period under review there were 58 airmen personnel on the strength of the Squadron, of whom 21 had been mustered to trades.

IX.—ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.

(1) The Indian Navy (Discipline) Act, 1934 (Act No. XXXIV of 1934), which provides for the application of the British Naval Discipline Act with certain modifications to the Indian naval forces, was passed by the Indian Legislature and brought into force on the 2nd October 1934. On this occasion His Majesty the King Emperor was pleased to approve of the Royal Indian Marine Service being designated, from the same date, the " Royal Indian Navy ".

To celebrate the inauguration of the new service, the ships of the Royal Indian Navy in harbour at Bombay and Karachi dressed overall and fired a salute of 31 guns, the military authorities at those ports co-operating by firing similar salutes.

The designations of the Marine Department of the Government of India and the Flag Officer Commanding and Director, Royal Indian Marine, were changed to " Navy Department " and " Flag Officer Commanding, Royal Indian Navy ", respectively. Sanction was at the same time accorded to the change in the designation of certain establishments, etc., in order to bring them more into line with those used by the naval establishments of the various Dominion Governments.

(2) Two vacancies, one in the executive branch and one in the engineer branch, were offered for competition at an open competitive examination which was held for the purpose in 1934. Of the 41 candidates who appeared at this examination, 3 were declared successful. As another vacancy had in the meantime occurred in the engineer branch, all of them were selected for training, *viz.*, two for the engineer branch and one for the executive. The first two embarked for the United Kingdom for training in March 1935, and the executive cadet joined the Indian Mercantile Marine Training Ship " Dufferin " for preliminary training before being sent to the United Kingdom for further training.

One cadetship in the executive branch was also offered for competition among the cadets of the Indian Mercantile Marine Training Ship " Dufferin " at a special examination which was held for the purpose in 1934. Of the six candidates who were admitted to this examination, three were declared to have attained the prescribed qualifying standard for admission to the Royal Indian Navy, but one of them failed to pass the requisite medical examination. The first of the two successful candidates was selected for appointment to the Royal Indian Navy. He embarked for the United Kingdom for training in December 1934.

(3) Revised rules were issued for the admission of candidates from the Indian Mercantile Marine Training Ship " Dufferin " to the commissioned ranks of the Royal Indian Navy.

(4) In pursuance of the policy of Indianisation, three Indian officers of the executive branch and two of the engineer branch were actually in the service, while four officers designate of the former branch and nine of the latter were under training, making a total of 18 officers or officers designate against a total cadre of 117.

(5) The construction of His Majesty's Indian Ship " Indus " was completed, and a Royal Indian Navy navigating party was sent to the United Kingdom to navigate the vessel to India. The ship is remaining in English waters to participate in the Silver Jubilee celebrations, and in the interval since she was ready has been attached to the minesweeping flotilla at Portland, to enable her personnel to gain experience in the latest developments in minesweeping. She is a sloop of 1,250 tons, armed with two 4·7" guns, four 3-pounder guns and a multiple 1" anti-aircraft gun.

(6) An invitation was received from His Majesty's Government in the Commonwealth of Australia for India to be represented by one of her ships at the Centenary Celebrations at Melbourne which commenced in October 1934. His Majesty's Indian Ship " Hindustan " was despatched to Australia for the purpose. Officers and men created a very favourable impression at the ports they visited and tribute was paid in the Australian press to the smartness of the ship's company which took part in many ceremonial and other functions on shore.

(7) Sanction was accorded to the paying off of His Majesty's Indian Ship " Baluchi " and to her disposal. This patrol boat is replaced by the sloop " Indus ".

APPENDIX I.

1. The following Army units are in process of being Indianised :—

Cavalry—

3rd Cavalry.

7th Light Cavalry.

16th Light Cavalry.

Engineers—

One Field Troop, Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners, No. 44 Division, H. Q. Company, Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 15 Fd. Coy., Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 5 Fd. Coy., K. G. O., Bengal Sappers and Miners.

No. 22 Fd. Coy., Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners.

Artillery.—'A' Field Brigade, Indian Regiment of Artillery (4 Batteries).

Signals—

4th Cav. Bde., Signal Troop.

4th Ind. Div. Sigs.

Infantry—

2nd Battalion, 1st Punjab Regt.

5th Battalion, 2nd Punjab Regt.

5th Royal Battalion, 5th Mahratta L. I.

5th Battalion (Napier's), 6th Rajputana Rifles.

1st Battalion (Q. V. O. L. I.), 7th Rajput Regt.

5th Battalion (Burma), 8th Punjab Regt.

5th Battalion (K. G. O.), (Jacob's Rifles), 10th Baluch Regiment.

5th Battalion (Duke of Connaught's Own), 11th Sikh Regiment.

4th Battalion (Sikhs), 12th Frontier Force Regiment.

6th Royal Battalion (Scinde), 13th Frontier Force Rifles.

1st Battalion, 14th Punjab Regiment.

4th Battalion, 19th Hyderabad Regiment.

APPENDIX II.

October 1934 Examination.

Number of candidates by Communities—

Hindus	118
Muslims	41
Sikhs	27
Parsis	3
Indian Christians	2
Anglo-Indians (including an Anglo-Armenian) and Domiciled Europeans	8
Jain	1
Jew	1
Total	201

Number of candidates by Provinces—

Punjab	82
United Provinces	41
N. W. F. Province	13
Bombay	10
Madras	10
Bihar and Orissa	5
Bengal	5
Delhi	4
Central Provinces	3
Burma	2
Rajputana	2
Assam	1

States—

Kashmir	3
Gwalior	2
Baroda	2
Alwar	1
Bhopal	1
Central India States	1
Cochin	1
Hyderabad	1
Indore	1
Jaipur	1
Jind	1
Jodhpur	1
Kapurthala	1
Kotah	1
Mysore	1
Patiala	1
Rutlam	1
Sangli	1
Udaipur	1
Total	201

These figures are based on the statements of the candidates concerning their Province or State of origin.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Interview and Record Board at the October, 1934, Examination.

Army Candidates.

The Board were of opinion that a very large number of candidates were quite unsuited for a military career. There were also a considerable number who were not much above the border line, though, possibly, some of them who were young may improve if they persevere.

Eighty-six of the candidates had served in a University Training Corps, a School Cadet Corps, or the Auxiliary Force, India; but some of them had not attended many parades. A considerable number of candidates, of course, had no opportunity of rendering any service of this kind, being either ineligible to join the Auxiliary Force, India or having been at a college or school where there was no Cadet Corps or University Training Corps. Many candidates who had taken Science subjects said that they were unable to join a University Training Corps because the hours fixed for laboratory work did not leave them free to do so. The Board notice with pleasure that one or two colleges have made an endeavour to regulate their hours in such a way as to remove this obstacle, and the Board hope that this practice will grow. Other candidates said that it was impossible to represent their university or college in games and to attend parades, and that, consequently, if they were good at games, they were pressed to represent the college instead of joining a University Training Corps. The Board do not think that it should be impossible to arrange college or university games in such a way as to enable the players to attend a reasonable number of parades, if they wish to do so.

Navy candidates.

In the opinion of the Board, at least half of the candidates were unsuited for a naval career, and should not have taken the examination. Some were on the border line, and being young, they might improve with perseverance.

The Board were further of opinion that most of the candidates were entirely ignorant of naval affairs and had not even seen a ship in their life. They were consequently unable to form an adequate conception of the character and qualities required of a naval officer.

M85AD—650—27-7-35—GIPS

A Summary of Important Matters concerning the Defence Services in India, 1935-36.

134352

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I.—THE QUETTA EARTHQUAKE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MADE SUBSEQUENTLY.

1. It is unnecessary to touch on the details of this disastrous calamity which visited Quetta and its environs on the early morning of the 31st May as they are widely known and are available in various published documents. Although the Army escaped serious casualties, the Royal Air Force was exposed to the full force of the disaster and suffered grievous losses in killed and injured. The buildings of the Royal Air Force were almost completely destroyed and although those of the Army did not suffer so severely, it was decided that they could not be relied upon to withstand earthquake shocks of less severe but comparable intensity. The Government of India were therefore faced with the necessity for a large rebuilding programme if the garrison were to remain in Quetta and further, since Baluchistan might be visited by further earthquakes in the future, any buildings to be erected must be designed to withstand the possible dangers.

2. In the first place the Government of India decided to retain the army garrison in Quetta at practically the present strength but to remove some of the Royal Air Force units to other centres as noted below :—

No. III Indian Wing	..	To Chakala during the winter and to Lower Topa during the summer.
One Squadron	..	To Chaklala with a flight at Miranshah.
One Squadron	..	To Karachi with a flight at Fort Sandeman.

Pending a decision on the numbers of army formations and units to be maintained in Quetta for the future, certain emergency movements were ordered in the late summer with the object of ensuring that the existing army garrison escaped in some measure from the extreme severity of the winter conditions which obtain in that area. Certain units were stationed for the winter at Karachi, Hyderabad (Sind), Sibi, Loralai and Chaman whilst those remaining in Quetta utilised during the day such accommodation as was adjudged to be safe. During the night the garrison was accommodated in "Wana huts" which are tents having their canvas sides replaced by mud walls built to a height of six feeet.

3. After the earthquake the Defence Forces gave their assistance to the Civil Administration of Quetta in full measure, and for about one month took complete charge of the situation. On the 28th of June 1935 the Civil authorities resumed control in their own sphere. On the 25th of June the first move was made towards clearing the debris. The Defence Forces took their full share in the gigantic task that followed and the whole work of official reconstruction is being entrusted to the agency of the Military Engineer Service, both for civil and military buildings.

4. Following the decision to maintain Quetta as an army garrison approximately Rs. 9 lakhs were expended on the purchase of excavators, tools and plant, demolition and clearance of sites, extension of the railway and on other preparatory measures. The Secretary of State also sanctioned a temporary

increase of 17 engineer officers for the work, and in preparation for the reconstruction programme two meaures of importance were completed :—

(*i*) specifications and orders were issued governing the degree of earthquake-proofing to be adopted, and

(*ii*) a complete malaria survey was conducted to determine the healthiest zones in which to rebuild.

Ultimately the Government of India decided to undertake the construction of the following buildings as a first instalment of the rebuilding programme and tenders were called for and were received in March 1936 :—

(*a*) One complete set of lines for a British Infantry Battalion.

(*b*) Two complete sets of lines for Gurkha Infantry Battalions.

(*c*) One complete set of lines for an Indian Infantry Battalion.

(*d*) British Military Hospital.

(*e*) British Family Hospital.

(*f*) Indian Military Hospital.

(*g*) A number of messes and quarters for married officers.

II.—ACTIVE OPERATIONS OF THE DEFENCE FORCES.

Mohmand.

1. In August and September of 1935 fairly extensive field operations in Mohmand territory were forced on the Government of India. Since the last operations in this area in 1933, which resulted in the building of a motor road through the Gandab Valley in Lower Mohmand territory, the Mohmands had been relatively quiet. It is important to remember that the trouble in Mohmand territory in recent years has been due in no small degree to the protection afforded by Government to the Lower Mohmands at their request and to the aggressive attitude to Government of the Upper Mohmands, who receive no allowances.

2. At the end of July 1935, however, a dispute arose between the Burhan Khel and Isa Khel sections of the Lower Mohmands over the distribution of contracts on the Gandab road, and repair parties working on the road were fired on. At the same time the Safi section of the Upper Mohmands became restive in consequence of pressure exerted to dissuade them from harbouring outlaws.

3. Past experience has often proved that such elements of trouble provide the opportunity for an unscrupulous agitator to fan the flames of discontent and to organise hostile action against the Government. Unfortunately an agitator of this stamp was present in the irreconcilable Badshah Gul I, the eldest son of the notorious Haji of Turangzai, who, by the 16th of August 1935, had raised a lashkar of 3,000 hositle tribesmen, mainly Burhan Khel, Isa Khel and Safis, and proceeeded to destroy portions of the Gandab road in Lower Mohmand territory.

4. Accordingly the Peshawar and Nowshera Brigades were moved up to Pir Kala, on the administrative border, and pressure was brought to bear against the Burhan Khel, the Isa Khel and the Safis, with the object of forcing them to withdraw their lashkars from the road. This pressure had an immediate effect on the situation, which was reflected in the progressive reduction in the size of the contingents provided by the Safis, Burhan Khel and Isa Khel.

5. Meanwhile a large number of the Baezai and Khwaezai sections of the Upper Mohmands had joined the hostiles and, feeling himself sufficiently strong to defy the Government, the Haji of Turangzai issued a virtual challenge by announcing that he would prevent troops from reaching Ghalanai on the Gandab road. At this stage portions of his lashkar had invaded Lower Mohmand territory and his challenge in effect was a denial of Government's right to protect the Lower Mohmands. It was, therefore, decided to send a force into the Gandab Valley to clear the road as far as Ghalanai. The force consisted at first of the Peshawar and Nowshera Brigades with attached troops, including one light tank company. Later when the operation had to be extended into Upper Mohmand country, the 2nd (Rawalpindi) and 3rd (Jhelum) Infantry Brigades were added. The Royal Air Force co-operated throughout. On the 23rd August 1935, after inflicting a severe defeat on the tribesmen, the Peshawar and Nowshera Brigades began their advance to Ghalanai, which they reached on the 26th August. From the 26th August to the 9th September 1935, the force halted at Ghalanai and reconnaissances were carried out.

6. Although the effect of the operations had been to reduce the hostiles in the field to about 500, the troops were engaged almost daily with the lashkar during this period and reconnaissance parties were invariably followed up as they withdraw to camp.

7. These hostile tribesmen were now mostly Upper Mohmands and it became apparent that a further advance into Upper Mohmand country would have to be made if their hostility was to be broken. The Governor of the North-West Frontier Province therefore issued a proclamation informing the tribes that Government had decided to advance to the Nahakki area and prolong the road to a camp there; that air action would be discontinued, if there was no further opposition; and that Government had no intention of remaining in permanent occupation of Mohmand territory.

8. The hostile lashkars which had increased to about 2,200 now diminished to about 600 and the Peshawar Brigade crossed the Nahakki pass to Nahakki village on the 17th September 1935, with practically no opposition. A camel track and later a tank track were constructed over the pass; a piped water supply was laid to the camp at Nahakki, and work was started on a motor road. By the 23rd of September the Burhan Khel, Isa Khel and Kamalai Halimzai had made submission. The Safis submitted on the 26th September. Reconnaissance and movement from Nahakki camp, however, still met with opposition and camps were persistently sniped. As a counter to this an operation was carried out on the 29th September to clear the Kamalai plain and round up hostile tribesmen. During this operation the 5/12th Frontier Force Regiment (The Guides), who were advancing along the ridge south of the plain to protect the flank of the troops operating in the plains, met with

very severe opposition. Their two leading platoons, after a heroic resistance on a narrow ridge, were overwhelmed. The Guides, however, were withdrawn in good order after inflicting severe casualties on the tribesmen. The remaining hostiles were now ready for peace and came in to make submission the next day. The final terms were announced to the Mohmands at a jirga on the 14th October 1935, and on the completion of the motor road to Nahakki on the 30th October 1935, the troops were withdrawn to their peace stations.

9. It is of interest to note that three Indianizing units took part in these operations :—

No. 5 Field Company, K. G. O. Sappers and Miners.

The 5th Battalion (K. G. O.) (Jacob's Rifles), the 10th Baluch Regiment.

The 1st Battalion, the 14th Punjab Regiment.

10. A detachment of the last mentioned of these units was responsible for carrying out a particularly successful ambush on the night of September 28th to trap parties of the enemy who came nightly to snipe the Wucha Jawan camp—thus beating the enemy at his own tactics.

Malakand.

11. The troops remained in occupation of Loe Agra until 12th June, when a levy post had been constructed there and a motor road completed from Kot.

12. The Area is at present garrisoned by Frontier Constabulary, and remained peaceful throughout the year, except for certain minor outrages committed by the Asils from west of the Swat River, such as the sniping of the levy post.

Hazara Tribal Territory.

13. Anti-government propaganda was spread by agitators in Allai, the tribal territory north of Oghi in the district of Hazara. On 20th August 1935, a gang of 300 Allaiwals raided the village of Battal, near Oghi and later a hostile gathering of approximately 3,000 tribesmen assembled and threatened to enter administered territory.

14. At the request of the civil authorities two battalions of infantry and one battery of mountain artillery were sent from Abbottabad to reinforce the Frontier Constabulary at Oghi and Battal. An air demonstration was also carried out and patrols were maintained by a detachment of 5 (Army Co-operation) Squadron, R. A. F. which was sent from Risalpur to Abbottabad for the purpose.

15. On 30th August 1935 about 300 hostile tribesmen entered the Hazara District, but were forced to withdraw after a long range engagement with Frontier Constabulary and troops. Subsequent attempts to raid Dilbori, near Battal, were frustrated by Frontier Constabulary or air action and by the 21st September the tribes had tendered submission and the troops then withdrew.

North Waziristan.

16. At the end of June 1935, a patrol of Tochi Scouts was fired upon by a party of Hassan Khel Wazirs near Spinwam in the North Waziristan Agency. The tribe then broke off relations with Government and migrated to Afghanistan. In the autumn, the tribe began to return to their villages, about the Keitu valley, and were responsible for a number of outrages such as sniping at posts and the cutting of telegraph wires about Spinwam. Accordingly in December 1935 an air demonstration was carried out over their country and a general warning was issued that any further offences would force Government to take such punitive action as might be decided upon. Since then the tribe has committed no further offences, although it has not yet made submission.

The Wa States.

17. There was no trouble from Chinese irregulars or hostile Was and it was possible to reduce the garrison of the Burma Military Police in the area during the rains. The Joint Boundary Commission assembled at the beginning of December 1935 and dispersed on the 7th April 1936 without completing its task. Two minor affrays with the Was occurred during February 1936. During the second, one man of the Burma Rifles was wounded, but otherwise no hostile opposition was encountered.

III.—INDIANIZATION OF THE DEFENCE SERVICES.

1. In the corresponding Summary issued last year a recapitulation was made of Government's policy in connection with the Indianization of the Army. The relevant extract is republished in Appendix I to this publication in order that the progress of Indianization made in the year 1935-36 and recounted below may more clearly be followed.

2. There was an appreciable reduction, as compared with the previous year, in the total numbers presenting themselves for examination for entry into the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. At the Interview and Record Board for entry to the Indian Military Academy held in October/November 1935, at which candidates for the Royal Indian Navy were also examined, 131 presented themselves, as against 201 in the autumn of 1934. At a Board held in March/April 1936, at which candidates for the Indian Air Force were also interviewed, 89 candidates appeared, as against 126 in the spring of 1935. The distribution of the year's candidates by communities and by Provinces, etc., are given in Appendix II.

Appendix III contains certain extracts of more general interest from the reports of the Board. The drop in numbers need not be regarded as serious so long as it is due to the elimination of that class of candidates who are manifestly not up to the required standard. That the tendency is in this direction may be inferred from the comments of the Interview and Record Board whose opinion as to the gradual improvement in the standard of candidates is encouraging. Experience has proved that the numbers appearing in March of any year tend to be smaller than in October and the presumption is that the coincidence of University examinations with the spring examination for the Indian Military Academy reacts adversely on the number of entries for the latter. The views of the Board on the question whether it is desirable for a

candidate to lose opportunities of taking the Indian Military Academy examination by sitting first of all for a matriculation or a degree examination are given in Appendix III and are worthy of notice. These views have been brought to the notice of the authorities concerned.

It is regrettable that little yet appears to have been done in the scholastic institutions affected to arrange that science classes or organised games do not clash with U. T. C. parades, although the point has already been brought to their notice.

3. During the year, cadets were admitted to the Indian Military Academy as follows :—

August.	16	by competitive examination,
	20	from the Indian Army, and
	2	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
	38	Total.
February.	16	by competitive examination,
	17	from the Indian Army, and
	3	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
	36	Total.

In the passing out examination held in June, 29 out of 32 cadets were successful, and at the examination held in December, 33 out of 34 cadets were successful. On each occasion the failures included one candidate for a commission in the Indian States Forces.

4. The results of the year's intake of Indian commissioned officers are exhibited in the following figures for the year under review. Those of the previous year are added for purposes of comparison.

	Numbers holding commissions as combatant officers.	
	31st March 1935.	31st March 1936.
Indian Land Forces	183	233
Royal Indian Navy	5	9
Indian Air Force	7	9
	195	251

5. In the Summary issued last year comment was made on the difficulties attendant on the preparation and selection of cadets drawn from the ranks of the army. It is essential that not only should the best be admitted to the Academy, but also that their educational standard should in every way be comparable with that of their fellow cadets who gain entrance by open competition. It will be recollected that one of the main difficulties sprang from the system under which Commanding Officers of units were required to educate, train and finally recommend the potential army cadet who, if selected, was

then drafted direct into the Academy. It is obvious that difficulties must arise when selection has to be made from recommendations put forward by scores of different authorities. It has now been decided to make an initial selection from the available material far earlier and to concentrate an adequate number of potential army cadets in one place for further training prior to the final selection of the required numbers for the Academy. The new scheme will make fresh use of the army institution known as the Kitchener College (located in Nowgong), which has hitherto served the purely educational purpose of training Indian ranks for the " Indian Army Special Certificate ". Commencing from 1936-37 about 120 potential cadets will continuously be under training in this institution. The course will be for two years. Selection for entry to the Academy will be made twice yearly by a Board which will visit the College. This Board will serve much the same purpose as is served by the Interview and Record Board for open competitive candidates. By this centralised system of training, it is confidently expected that not only will a higher class of army cadet be provided to the Academy, but also that the future army cadet will obtain his commission at a lower average age than has been possible hitherto.

6. Before leaving the subject of combatant officers of the Indian Land Forces, it is desirable to mention that the problem of providing a reserve for war of this category of officer was under examination during the last year. The constituted reserve for the Indian Army is the Army in India Reserve of Officers, but, as hitherto organized, it did not provide for Indianizing units. It was therefore decided to re-form the Reserve into two wings :—

(*a*) An Indian Wing, the members of which will hold Indian Land Forces commissions and who will be used to maintain the Indianized portion of the Indian Army.

(*b*) A British Wing, the members of which will hold King's commissions and who will be used to maintain the non-Indianized portion of the Indian Army.

7. In pursuance of the scheme for Indianizing the continuous Indian Service cadre of the Army Veterinary Corps in India, 8 Indian graduates possessing the degree of M. R. C. V. S. were granted commissions in the Indian Land Forces, which makes a total of 11 in the past two years. From investigations which have taken place it is apparent that there is little further scope at present for obtaining candidates within the prescribed age-limit who possess the requisite veterinary qualifications, and also that there are an inadequate number of students at present under training to meet the requirements of future years. The prospective shortage of candidates was brought to the notice of the public through the Press and further steps are being taken, through the High Commissioner in London, to issue a comprehensive handbook for the guidance of parents and guardians, which will give details of colleges, conditions of entry, duration of courses, costs, etc. Local Governments are also being addressed regarding the desirability of improving the standard of veterinary education provided in this country.

8. During the year one Indian Territorial Force officer and three Viceroy's commissioned officers were appointed Class II Executive Officers in the Cantonments Department. When the Cantonments (Amendment) Bill, now in

its final stages, has become law, the field will be clear for a gradual Indianization of all Executive Officers of that Department. No further British officers will be taken for such posts and all future requirements will be met by arrangements with the Public Service Commission.

9. A feature of Indianization is the provision of officers on the same scale as in the British army where junior officers on joining are first posted to command the smallest tactical and administrative sub-units, *i.e.*, the "section" in artillery and engineers, the "troop" in cavalry, the "platoon" in infantry, etc. This practice necessitates the gradual displacement of Viceroy's commissioned officers in Indianizing units, who have hitherto held these commands. A corollary to the new arrangements is the introduction of the new rank of warrant officer, which will be the highest rank to which, under complete Indianization, a man who enlists will normally be able to aspire, unless he succeeds in obtaining a commission through the Indian Military Academy.

But apart from the progressive introduction of Indian warrant officers in the fighting units that are being Indianized there are other fields in which this special form of Indianization has gradually been taking place. The most important is in the Royal Indian Army Service Corps where a programme is in being for the gradual replacement of British warrant and non-commissioned officers by Indian warrant officers. In the supply branch of that service 74 Indian warrant officers have already been selected against an original British cadre of 334. The same degree of progress has not yet been made in the more specialised mechanical and animal transport branches, but active steps are being taken to provide men with the requisite training from whom selection can be made.

A minor off-shoot of this movement is the decision to replace specialised British artificers in mechanical transport heavy repair units by Anglo-Indians. The training of 22 of the latter as apprentices had commenced.

10. A list of the units in process of Indianization is given in Appendix IV and a comparison with the list given in last year's Summary will show that the following additional units have now been brought within the scope of the programme :—

Royal Indian Army Service Corps.

No. 6 (Bolarum) District Supply Company.

No. 3 Animal Transport Company (Mule).

No. 12 Animal Transport Company (Mule).

In addition, decisions have been taken concerning the units mentioned below, although for the reasons stated, they cannot strictly be included in Appendix IV.

First of all there are the six Light Batteries of the Royal Artillery in India. These are entirely British units and their Indian counterpart, consisting of British officers but Indian ranks on the normal Indian Army model, are termed "Mountain Batteries". It was decided to convert all these six Light Batteries

into Mountain Batteries in accordance with the following programme ; the dates indicating when the changes are to commence :—

March 1937	Three batteries.
November 1937	Two batteries.
November 1938	One battery.

A second artillery change was the introduction of an Indian Training Battery which will serve as the recruit training centre for " A " Field Brigade of the Indian Artillery.

The third item was the completion of the first or " A " Flight of the Indian Air Force at the end of the year. It was however deficient of its full complement of air gunners and wireless operators, *i.e.*, the key personnel, who fly with the pilot. Steps are to be taken to remedy the deficiency. The flight was moved to Peshawar for advanced training and in its place in Karachi the 2nd or " B " Flight is now being raised.

11. Popular consideration of the Government's policy of Indianization is not unnaturally concentrated on the progress made in the fighting units ; and it is sometimes overlooked that, the scheme embraces all the ancillary and administrative units required to serve the needs of a Division and a Cavalry Brigade. What has already been said will, it is hoped, lead to an appreciation of the fact that Indianization is taking place in a number of directions outside the fighting units themselves which in their aggregate represent a very substantial measure of progress.

In addition to those already mentioned the following important items may be noted :—

(*a*) A programme is in existence for substituting Indian for British Despatch Riders in the Indian Signal Corps. During the past year 30 such substitutions were made.

(*b*) A Boy's Company exists at Jubbulpore for higher technical signal training. Its strength is now 90 and it consists of four classes, *viz.*, Punjabi Musalmans, Madrassis, Sikhs and Dogras. Boys are accepted at the age of 15. Their eventual role is to replace highly technical British ranks in the Indian Signal Corps and the progress made so far is most encouraging.

(*c*) A Surveyors of Works Branch exists in the Military Engineer Service and during the past year it was decided to introduce a parallel cadre of Indian Surveyors Assistants who will be required to pass an entrance examination on the lines of the Intermediate and Final examinations of the Chartered Surveyors Institute. The first examination was held in March 1936.

(*d*) Steady progress has been maintained towards the Indianization of half the cadre of Farm Managers and Assistant Managers in the Grass Farms Department.

(*e*) Certain British ranks in the Remount Department are gradually being replaced by " Indian Line Overseers ". Four were permanently appointed last year making a total of 7 against an original British cadre of 18.

IV.—ARMY.

1. *Despatch of troops overseas.*—In view of the International situation prevailing in the latter half of 1935 the Government of India placed the following units at the disposal of His Majesty's Government for use overseas and His Majesty's Government accepted the full charges for their maintenance while so employed:—

(*a*) A detachment of the 5/14th Punjab Regiment consisting of 3 officers, 3 Viceroy's commissioned officers and 129 Indian other ranks left Bombay on the 23rd August 1935 to strengthen the Legation Guard at Addis Ababa, Abyssinia. They arrived at Addis Ababa on 7th September 1935. One medical officer and one sub-assistant surgeon accompanied this detachment.

(*b*) The remainder of the 5/14th Punjab Regiment left Bombay for Aden on the 7th December 1935 with the first line transport provided by No. 23 Animal Transport Company, R. I. A. S. C. No. 17 Staging Section also accompanied this unit.

(*c*) The 8th Anti-Aircraft Battery, R. A., Peshawar, proceeded to Aden and Port Sudan from Karachi on the 9th November 1935.

(*d*) A detachment of the 5th Heavy Brigade, R. A., proceeded from Bombay to Port Sudan on the 2nd December 1935.

(*e*) The 2nd Battalion, the Royal Sussex Regiment which was in any case due for return to the United Kingdom establishment during the trooping season sailed for Egypt from Karachi on the 16th October 1935, some months before the relieving battalion arrived in India.

The units referred to in (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) are now returning to India, but the re-inforcement to the Legation guard still remains in Addis Ababa, where it rendered most valuable services in protecting British and Indian subjects at a critical period in the Abyssinian campaign and also received the thanks of the representatives of a number of other nations.

2. *Relief of troops overseas.*—The Government of India maintain a garrison of one company of British Infantry at Port Blair which had hitherto been furnished from the unit in Mingaladon in Burma. Consequent on the impending separation of Burma it was decided that in future the infantry company would be provided by the British Battalion in Dinapore. The relief was completed in December.

3. *Changes in Artillery equipment.*—The only important change during the year was the decision to re-arm Royal Horse Artillary with a new type of mechanised 3·7″ howitzers. The existing horse drawn armament has become obsolete and worn out and the new artillery chosen will be more powerful and more mobile.

As regards field and medium artillery, which form the bulk of the artillery of the army, experiments were carried out during the year with the object of discovering the most suitable mechanised tractors for drawing their guns in the special conditions which obtain in India.

4. *Issue of a new light automatic.*—All cavalry and about one-third of the Infantry units of the army were equipped with the new Vickers Berthier guns. The remaining infantry units of the army will be equipped during 1936-37.

5. *Changes of motor transport policy.*—Hitherto civil motor transport in India has been relatively unorganised. Gradually, however, larger transport concerns are becoming established and as this movement develops the army will be able to rely, in an increasing measure, on civil transport in time of war, provided that the potential war units are formed in peace. To this end, and as an experimental measure, the Government of India sanctioned a scheme for the subsidization of two civil mechanical transport sections each consisting of thirty 30-cwt. four-wheeled Ford V-8 lorries, complete with adequate driving, supervising and artificer personnel and spare parts. These conform in essentials of organization to the motor transport sections of the army.

In accordance with the measure of success met by the scheme it will be possible to increase its scope whilst making corresponding reductions at the expense of army transport. The financial saving will be considerable. For each army section costing roundly one lakh of rupees annually, a subsidized civil section costing Rs. 35,000 per annum will be substituted. Even the latter sum is, by the terms of the contract, susceptible of appreciable reduction where transport work for other departments of Government can be given to the subsidized sections.

6. *Oil cooker equipment.*—2,600 sets of oil cooking equipment were manufactured at, and issued from, the Gun Carriage Factory, Jubbulpore, during the year 1935-36. This brings the total number issued to over 4,000.

This equipment was in use during the year for the Mohmand and Loe Agra operations as also for training columns on the North-West Frontier and for manœuvres. It proved to be extremely satisfactory and of great benefit to the troops.

The Army in India is the first army in the world to have provided itself with oil cooking equipment for use in war. The benefit which this confers on the army from the point of view of mobility can be gauged by the fact that hitherto three pounds of firewood for cooking had to be transported each day for every soldier in the theatre of war, whereas in future this amount will be replaced by 8 oz. of fuel oil. As nearly half the weight of the soldier's daily ration in war previously consisted of fuel, the saving in the amount of transport required is very considerable.

7. *Rural reconstruction.*—During the year under review the Government of India intensified their activities in the cause of rural reconstruction. As the sepoy is almost exclusively drawn from the agricultural classes, it became desirable for the Indian Army to increase the assistance it had previously rendered, with the object of providing the civil authorities, through the medium of the time expired sepoy returning to civil life, with a body of men who would understand and appreciate the lasting benefits to be derived from the general objective in view. It was decided therefore to widen the scope of army education, hitherto limited to isolated subjects such as hygiene and sanitation, in order to embrace the whole field of rural reconstruction in its broader aspects. To this end the subject was included in the syllabi of instruction from recruits

training to the training given to embryo officers in the Indian Military Academy and it will in future form a subject in educational examinations.

With the further object of securing the co-operation of the civil authorities, as also to provide media for the exchange of ideas and information, local committees were formed in practically every military station.

8. *Finance.*—The budget estimate of the Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air Force), for 1935-36 was fixed at Rs. 44·98 crores. The increase of Rs. 60 lakhs as compared with the budget for 1934-35 was mainly due to the restoration of the emergency cut in pay imposed by the Government of India and the partial restoration of the cut imposed by His Majesty's Government on the pay of British soldiers.

The budget for 1936-37 was fixed at Rs. 45·45 crores.

This figure provides Rs. 60 lakhs for the reconstruction of Quetta and other expenditure arising out of the earthquake. Excluding this provision, the Defence Budget thus stands at Rs. 44·85 crores or Rs. 13 lakhs below that for 1934-35. But these two figures are not strictly comparable because the estimate for 1936-37 for the first time excludes expenditure on the Indian Military Service Family Pensions in respect of which other arrangements are being made. On a true comparison therefore the estimates for 1936-37 show an increase of Rs. 21 lakhs. This is more than accounted for by the restoration of the remaining half of the 10 per cent. cut in the pay of British soldiers imposed by His Majesty's Government (costing Rs. 5 lakhs) and an addition of Rs. 20 lakhs in the cost of Ordnance Services. The last named increase is in reality a reversion to a more normal level of expenditure. Reductions and economies over a series of years produced surpluses of ordnance stores and equipment which permitted for a temporary period of lower scales of purchase of new articles. These surpluses are now rapidly decreasing.

V.—ROYAL AIR FORCE AND INDIAN AIR FORCE.

1. *Training flights.*—Long distance exercise flights were carried out during the period under review. On the 15th October 1935, 5 Wapitis of 27 (B) Squadron flew to Gilgit by the Indus valley route. The flight returned to Kohat on the 18th October.

Between the 8th December 1935 and the 15th January 1936, 12 Harts of 39 (B) Squadron, accompanied by two Valentias, carried out an exercise flight to Singapore and back.

Between the 7th February and the 5th March 1936, 12 Wapitis of 60 (B) Squadron carried out an exercise flight to Singapore and back. On the outward journey one Wapiti hit a large bird which damaged the aeroplane sufficiently to necessitate an immediate forced landing near Jullundur. A second Wapiti crashed at Etah after encountering very bad weather and low clouds. The pilot was killed and the air gunner dangerously injured. One Valentia was extensively damaged as a result of colliding with an obstruction on the emergency landing ground at Fatehgarh.

In July 1935, one Singapore III flying boat carried out a flight from Plymouth to Singapore. The route taken involved flying across India from Karachi to Mergui *via* Allahabad, Chittagong and Rangoon.

2. *Purchase of a new aircraft.*—The Government of India accepted the principle of re-equipping Royal Air Force squadrons in India in accordance with a programme based on an eight year cycle. In furtherance of this decision it was decided to open a sinking fund to be built up by annual contributions of Rs. 12·19 lakhs.

In accordance with the programme, No. 20 (Army Co-operation) Squadron should have been re-equipped with Audax (Kestrel I.B. 5) aircraft in 1934-35, but delay in deliveries occurred and it was only possible to complete the measure in the year under review. This has postponed by one year the similar re-equipment of No. 28 (Army Co-operation) Squadron.

3. The two Valentias with Pegasus 2 M. 3 engines which had been ordered for the Bomber Transport Flight during the previous financial year were flown from England to Karachi. These aircraft now form a part of the initial equipment of the Bomber Transport Flight. On arrival of the two Valentias one Victoria was put under complete overhaul and converted to a Valentia.

4. *Strengths of Indians in the Air Force.*—At the end of the year under review these strengths were as follows:—

(*a*) *Personnel serving with the Indian Air Force.*

Officers General Duties	8	
Stores	1	
		9
Combatants ranks—		
Ex-apprentices	20	
Airmen other than apprentices mustered to trades	7	
Recruits entered direct and not yet mustered	5	
		32

(*b*) *Personnel of the Indian Air Force attached to and working with Royal Air Force Units.*

Combatant ranks (M. T. personnel)	113
Non-combatant ranks	298
Followers, Class I	131

(*c*) *Personnel under Instruction.*

Indian apprentices still under training	21
Total	604

5. *Finance.*—The budget estimate for the Royal Air Force for 1935-36 was fixed at Rs. 199·46 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 15·31 lakhs over the budget for the previous year.

The increase was mainly due to additional provision for stores, whilst the restoration of the pay cut together with an increase in non-effective charges and works items made up the balance.

VI.—ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.

1. *Recruitment of officers.*—Three officers' vacancies, two in the executive branch and one in the engineer branch, were offered for competition at the

1935 examination held in Delhi. Of the 26 candidates who appeared, 5 satisfied the examiners. The successful candidate for the engineer branch embarked for the United Kingdom for training in March 1936, and the two successful candidates for the executive branch joined the Indian Mercantile Marine Training Ship "Dufferin" for preliminary training, prior to further training in the United Kingdom.

2. *Persian Gulf.*—The Royal Indian Navy Fuel Depot at Henjam was transferred to Bahrein.

3. *Training of boys.*—Sanction was accorded to the purchase at a cost of Rs. 73,000 of certain land and buildings at Manora, to which place it is proposed to transfer the Boys Training Establishment of the Royal Indian Navy.

4. *Finance.*—The Royal Indian Navy budget estimate for 1936-37 was fixed at Rs. 80·54 lakhs, or Rs. 14·43 lakhs in excess of the previous year. The excess is almost wholy accounted for by a decision which was reached to place into a sinking fund a further annual sum of Rs. 14 lakhs from which to meet the cost of replacement of vessels.

APPENDIX I.

EXTRACT FROM " A SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE DEFENCE SERVICES IN INDIA, 1934-35 ".

Indianisation.

It is perhaps desirable to recapitulate the following facts regarding the Government's policy in connection with the Indianisation of the Army :—

(*a*) The accepted policy aims as a preliminary at the Indianisation of the units which normally go to constitute one division of all arms (including ancillary services) and one cavalry brigade. This entails the Indianisation of certain existing units and the raising of new units of certain other arms (*e.g.*, Artillery), of which no Indian units existed previously.

(*b*) The units now in process of Indianisation are detailed in Appendix I*. These units will move in relief in the normal manner except that in the case of the larger units (*e.g.*, cavalry regiments and infantry battalions) differences in establishment make it necessary to provide additional accommodation in certain stations. Stations have been selected for them so that units will in turn gain experience in all roles, *viz.*, field army, covering troops and internal security duties.

(*c*) The general policy adopted as regards the Indianisation of units entails the following steps :—

(*i*) the increase of the establishment of officers (exclusive of Viceroy's commissioned officers) to enable the new Indian officers, whether commissioned from Woolwich and Sandhurst or from the Indian Military Academy, to join their units as troop or platoon commanders ;

(*ii*) the gradual elimination of Viceroy's commissioned officers ; and

(*iii*) the introduction of warrant ranks into Indianising units in supersession of the present establishment of non-commissioned officers above the rank of havildar.

(*d*) Indian officers commissioned from the Indian Military Academy will bear the title of ' Indian commissioned officers ' and will receive commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces.

* * * *

(*e*) The same form of commission is being granted to Indian officers of the Indian Army Veterinary Corps and to Indian officers of the Indian Medical Service commissioned after the 1st January 1935.

(*f*) On passing out of the Indian Military Academy, cadets are commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants in the Special List, Indian Land Forces, and those going to the cavalry and infantry are attached for a period of one year to a British infantry unit. Cadets going to

* See Appendix IV of this publication.

other arms of the Service receive post-graduate training as follows :—

Artillery.—A four months' course at the School of Artillery, Kakul, and attachment to a Royal Field Artillery unit for one year.

Engineers.—A course of approximately three years at the Thomason College, Roorkee, followed by a six months' course with the King George's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners at that station.

Signals.—A course of eighteen months at the Signal Training School, followed by a qualifying course at the Army Signal School for three months and attachment to a non-Indianising unit for six months.

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APPENDIX II.

Analysis of candidates for entry to the Indian Military Academy who presented themselves before the Interview and Record Boards in 1935-36.

(a) Candidates by communities.		October/November 1935.		March/April 1936.	
Hindus ..	Brahmins 21	75	Brahmins	12	47
	Kshatriyas 36		Kshatriyas	20	
	Kayasthas 8		Kayasthas	2	
	Vaishiyas 7		Vaishiyas	4	
	Others 3		Others	9	
Muslims		21			19
Sikhs		21			12
Anglo-Indians		5			1
Jains		2			..
Parsis		2			4
Indian Christians		4			3
Anglo-Burman		1			..
Burmese		..			1
Domiciled Europeans		..			1
Rajput Garhwali		..			1
Total ..		131			89

(b) Candidates by Provinces and States.	October/November 1935.		March/April 1936.	
Provinces.				
Punjab	52		28	
Madras	6		5	
N. W. F. P.	5		7	
Bombay	10		9	
Bengal	5		4	
B. and O.	2		..	
Burma	3		5	
C. P.	3		4	
Assam	2		..	
U. P.	29		6	
Delhi	4		3	
Coorg	1		1	
Malay States	..		1	
Indian States.				
Rajputana States (Udaipur and Mount Abu) ..	2	10	5	16
Gwalior	2		..	
Central India States	1		..	
Kashmir	2		3	
Kolhapur	1		2	
Mysore	1		1	
Madras States	1		..	
Hyderabad	..		2	
Bundelkhand	..		1	
Travancore	..		1	
Baroda	..		1	
Total ..	132		89	

APPENDIX III.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERVIEW AND RECORD BOARDS DURING 1935-36.

(a) October/November 1935. Army candidates.

The Board thought that on the whole the standard had risen, that is, that there were more good candidates up, and that the best were rather better than before. They found further evidence, too, of the growing desire of the respectable business and professional classes to launch their sons on a military career. There is no doubt that this section of the population is becoming more alive to the advantages of the soldier's profession and are trying more and more to shape their sons' education and outlook so as to incline them to and fit them for it. There were many youths of this class who made a highly favourable impression on the Board, having *clearly* worked hard to fit themselves for life in the army and being animated by a genuine interest in a military career and military subjects. Some of these youths were given very high marks. There is, however, the same tale to tell as in past years about the considerable number of candidates who had never in all their life betrayed the most elementary interest in soldiers or things connected with them. A common excuse for apathy and ignorance was: "When I enter the Academy, I shall know everything". Such youths are mere opportunists, almost gamblers, taking a chance in the Indian Military Academy examination in the hope that luck may pull them through. Most youths of this class impressed the Board unfavourably and suffered accordingly in the marks awarded to them. Before leaving the subject the Board feels it desirable again to emphasize the advantages of youths preparing for the Indian Military Academy examination of University Training Corps, Cadet Corps and special Army Classes, and they would advise the parents and guardians of prospective candidates to secure for their sons or wards the benefit of the training imparted in these institutions. It is equally apparent that some potentially promising candidates are heavily handicapped from the start by their having missed these advantages and from their tuition having been in the hands of persons who have never spoken to or even seen a military officer.

In conclusion, the Board has formed the impression that though the actual number of competitors remains almost stationary, there are evidences of a spread of interest in the army among people of a good class, though not all with traditions of military service. It seems likely, though it will take time before a final answer can be given, that a source of supply of a good type of officer is gradually opening up. The old-time military families, on the other hand, do not always realise sufficiently the need of a high standard of education and intelligence in the present-day officer. This is a shortcoming which they must endeavour to correct, if they are to retain the position which their sterling fighting qualities have won them.

(b) October/November 1935. Navy candidates.

The general standard of the boys was good. Educationally and physically they appeared of the proper type, and if some of them lacked any quality it was their general bearing. On the whole the boys had very vague idea of

the kind of life they had to lead in the Navy, and most of them had never seen the sea.

(c) *March/April 1936. Army candidates.*

The candidates as a body presented no features that have not received attention and comment from previous Interview and Record Boards. 46 candidates had served in the U. T. C. or equivalent oraganisations. The remaining 43 include, of course, not a few who came from institutions where no U. T. C. exists. There were still found candidates taking Science subjects who complained that they were unable to join a U. T. C., because the hours fixed for practical work in the laboratory clashed with those fixed for parades. This complaint is of long standing. It is understood that some colleges have endeavoured to regulate hours of work so as to remove this obstacle, but the Board hope that before long every institution which possesses a U. T. C. will see that no boys particularly those preparing for the Indian Military Academy examination—are debarred from joining from the cause alluded to. There is no class of student whom the U. T. C. is better calculated to benefit than those who aim at a career in the commissioned ranks of the army. Indeed any U. T. C. which fails in this respect is missing one of the chief purposes for which it has its being. Some few candidates also explained their failure to join the U. T. C. by saying that, as they were good at some particular game or games, they were pressed to represent the college instead of joining the U. T. C. This again is a matter which requires attention at the hands of the responsible authorities, since it should not be impossible to arrange college games in such a way as to leave sufficient time free for such players as wish also to join the U. T. C. As before, a certain number of candidates had failed to join the U. T. C. without any adequate excuse.

It again appeared that the questionnaire sent to headmasters of schools or principals of colleges elicited answers which, in certain cases, appeared to the Board to be unduly flattering to the candidates conerned. This is regrettable, since reports so framed are obviously of no real assistance to the Board. The proper corrective for this would seem to be for parents and guardians to send intending candidates to institutions conducting ' Army Classes ' and possessing instructors familiar with the type of youth who is required for the army. From such quarters a juster estimate is likely to be forthcoming as to the qualities and capacity of a candidate. This would be of benefit no less to parents and candidates than to the Interview and Record Board, and it would further tend to prevent the appearance at the examination of a certain percentage of candidates who are quite unsuited for a military life, and who are never likely to succeed in any competitive examination. While candidates of this type are no loss, the Board observed that some candidates of a superior stamp had not come up for the Indian Military Academy examination until their last or next to last chance, despite the fact that they professed to have long been determined to follow a military career. Certain of these candidates explained that their parents or guardians had preferred that they should make sure of passing the Matriculation or B. A. or other academic examination before appearing for the Indian Military Academy. The reason for this is intelligible enough, but the Board think it is a pity that any lad who is seriously bent

on entering the army should be given only one chance at the examination, since one or more "trial trips" serve to give a candidate the confidence of experience and enable him to give a better account of himself.

(d) October/November 1936. Air candidates.

The general remarks recorded in the report of the Indian Military Academy Board apply *mutatis mutandis* to candidates for the Indian Air Force. Some of these lads were very vague as to the reasons for wishing to join the Air Force and ignorant of the most elementary facts about aircraft. This, however, is not altogether surprising and it in no way told against them. Good raw material for the Indian Military Academy is equally acceptable for the Indian Air Force, and airmindedness may be expected to develop with instruction, training and experience. On the other hand, certain candidates answered questions in a way that denoted that they took an intelligent interest in flying and connected matters. Three candidates had actual flying experience.

As eleven candidates received 60% of marks or more, there should be no difficulty in filling suitably the two vacancies offered for competition.

APPENDIX IV.

1. The following Army units are in process of being Indianised :—

Cavalry—

3rd Cavalry.

7th Light Cavalry.

16th Light Cavalry.

Engineers—

One Field Troop, Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners, No. 44 Division, H. Q. Company, Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 15 Field Company, Q. V. O., Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 5 Field Company, K. G. O., Bengal Sappers and Miners.

No. 22 Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners.

Artillery.—'A' Field Brigade, Indian Regiment of Artillery (4 Batteries).

Signals—

4th Cavalry Brigade, Signal Troop.

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Infantry—

2nd Battalion, 1st Punjab Regiment.

5th Battalion, 2nd Punjab Regiment.

5th Royal Battalion, 5th Mahratta Light Infantry.

5th Battalion (Napier's), 6th Rajputana Rifles.

1st Battalion (Q. V. O. L. I.), 7th Rajput Regt.

5th Battalion (Burma), 8th Punjab Regt.

5th Battalion (K. G. O.), (Jacob's Rifles), 10th Baluch Regiment.

5th Battalion (Duke of Connaught's Own), 11th Sikh Regiment.

4th Battalion (Sikhs), 12th Frontier Force Regiment.

6th Royal Battalion (Scinde), 13th Frontier Force Rifles.

1st Battalion, 14th Punjab Regiment.

4th Battalion, 19th Hyderabad Regiment.

Supply and Transport.—

No. 6 (Bolarum) District Supply Company, R. I. A. S. C.

No. 3 Animal Transport Company (Mule), R. I. A. S. C.

No. 12 Animal Transport Company (Mule), R. I. A. S. C.

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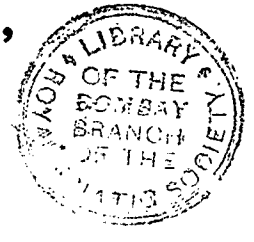
A Summary of Important Matters concerning the Defence Services in India, 1936-37.



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FOREWORD.

In the course of a debate in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March 1934, the Defence Secretary promised to consider the possibility of publishing annually for the benefit of members of the Legislature an account of the chief activities of the Army during the previous twelve months. The following pages contain such an account in respect of all the three fighting services for the year which ended on the 31st March 1937.

A SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DEFENCE SERVICES IN INDIA, 1936-37.

I.—General.

1. *Coronation contingent.*—Although not falling within the period of this report, it may perhaps be desirable to give details of the despatch of the Coronation contingent.

In addition to H. I. M. S. sloop ' Indus ' a contingent consisting of 30 British and Indian officers on the staff of the Contingent ; 1 R. I. N. officer and 6 R. I. N. ratings ; 2 officers of the A. I. R. O.; 31 officers of the A. F. (I.) ; 19 officers, 13 Indian other ranks and 3 private servants of the I. T. F. ; 182 Viceroy's commissioned officers and 136 Indian other ranks representing every unit, corps and department of the regular Indian army ; 2 Indian commissioned officers and 1 other rank of the Indian Air Force ; 79 officers and other ranks of the Indian States Forces ; 67 officers and men of the Civil Police ; and 5 Viceroy's commissioned officers and 3 other ranks of the Scouts and Militia ; with hospital, supply, clerical and menial staffs, proceeded from India to attend the Coronation in London of His Majesty King George VI, Emperor of India.

The main body of the Contingent embarked on the H. T. " Neuralia " at Bombay on the 12th April 1937, and arrived at Southampton on the 3rd May 1937. During its stay in England the Contingent was encamped in the grounds of Hampton Court.

300 members of the Contingent marched in the Coronation Procession on the 12th May 1937. The remainder of the Contingent were placed on the route.

Arrangements were made during the visit to give facilities to members of the Contingent to visit farms and factories and also to witness places of interest including demonstrations of the latest armaments. They were also entertained at social functions by certain societies and by the Mayors of several towns.

The main body of the Contingent re-embarked at Southampton on the 25th May, 1937. The Contingent visited Gibraltar, Malta, Port Said and Aden on the return journey.

2. *Reconstruction of Quetta.*—Considerable progress was made on construction of the buildings included in the first instalment of the rebuilding programme.

A contract for the reconstruction of accommodation for the garrison at Shelabagh was accepted in January 1937 and work is now in hand.

Owing to increase in the responsibilities of C. R. E. Reconstruction, Quetta, two additional posts of a Deputy Chief Engineer and a Commander Royal Engineers were sanctioned.

3. *Revision of military boundaries.*—Prior to the introduction of the separate Province of Orissa, the territories of that Province fell within the military boundaries of both of the Eastern and Southern (military) Commands. In order to secure that the Government of the new Province need only deal with one high military authority, the military boundaries were adjusted to include the new Province in the Eastern (military) Command.

4. *Re-organisation of the Indian Medical Service.*—The recommendations of the Services Sub-Committee of the 1st Round Table Conference regarding the Indian Medical Service, those of a Committee set up in 1933 at Army Headquarters to consider the military medical organisation in India and of the Warren Fisher Committee regarding the recruitment and conditions of service of the British Defence Medical Services, led to a detailed investigation by the Government of India into the future of the Medical Services in India. Consultation with the Provinces and the Secretary of State ensued which eventually resulted in an agreed scheme of reorganisation. This was announced in a Resolution of the Government of India No. 205, dated the 25th March 1937.

5. The general principles on which this scheme was based may be summarised as follows :—

(*a*) To ensure the required number of officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps and Indian Medical Service for employment with British and Indian troops respectively in peace or war.

(*b*) To reconcile as far as possible the natural desire of the Provinces to exercise complete autonomy in medical and health administration with the necessity for providing the Army with a satisfactory reserve for employment in time of war and ensuring that the officers and families of the Superior Civil Services have the standard and type of medical attendance to which they are entitled. In order to relieve the Provinces as far as possible of the extra expenditure involved in employing officers on higher rates of pay than those which they find sufficient to attract recruits to their own Medical Services, the Central Government have accepted the liability to pay the Provinces a subsidy in respect of the British Indian Medical Service officers forming part of the War Reserve who will be employed by them.

(*c*) The attainment of the objects specified in sub-paragraphs (*a*) and (*b*) above will be most efficiently secured, from the point of view of India as a whole, by continuing the existing Medical Services broadly on their present basis. The possibility of unifying the military Medical Services in India which has frequently been examined and rejected, has been definitely abandoned. The acceptance of the alternative scheme proposed by the Round Table Conference would have involved both the Government of India and Provincial Governments in additional recurring expenditure as well as impairing the efficiency of the necessary War Reserve.

(*d*) British recruitment to the Indian Medical Service will continue on a basis of the actual requirements mentioned in sub-paragraphs (*a*) and (*b*) above and not on a predetermined ratio of British and Indian officers.

(*e*) The further Indianisation of the Medical Services is to be looked for, not so much within the Indian Medical Service itself as in the Provincial sphere. The number of civil posts filled by I. M. S. officers has been steadily decreasing for many years.

The tendency has been carried one stage further by this reorganisation. Up till 1920, 422 civil appointments were open to Indian Medical Service officers ; this was reduced in 1928 to 237 and by the present reorganisation to 172. Though there has been a relative reduction of civil opportunities for Indian members of the Indian Medical Service, in practice Indianisation is increased absolutely in that many posts which were previously held by European members of the Service are and will be held in increasing numbers by Indians. In fact since 1920 Indianisation of the medical services generally has proceeded at a more rapid pace than in any other service ; and as regards the I. M. S. it is to be noted that the Provinces may employ as many Indian I. M. S. officers as they wish, provided only that a sufficient security of tenure is guaranteed so as to avoid an embarrassing surplus being thrown back on the Army as a result of some sudden change of policy.

6. The financial effect of the reorganisation will involve a temporary additional expenditure. This is due to the increase in the present authorised establishments, although not restoring them to the strength employed previous to the last retrenchment, and also to the subsidy to the Provinces for officers of the War Reserve.

Ultimately however the cost of the larger number of officers to be employed will be considerably less than the charges prior to the introduction of this scheme as a result of :—

(*a*) The employment of a considerable proportion of Short Service Officers in the establishment of the Royal Army Medical Corps in India under the conditions prescribed by the Warran Fisher Committee.

(*b*) The extension of the system of Short Service Commissions as the recognised method of entry to the Indian side of the Indian Medical Service, and

(*c*) The application of a reduced scale of basic pay for future entrants to the Indian Medical Service.

II.—Active Operations of the Defence Forces.

7. *Wana Area, 1936.*—In Waziristan in the area occupied by the Zilli Khel Wazirs, west of Wana, the situation had for some time been unsatisfactory owing to the failure of the tribe to control certain bad characters and outlaws. Accordingly it was found necessary to bring pressure to bear on the tribe to carry out their responsibilities, and it was decided

to exclude the tribe from their winter grazing grounds, to which they were about to migrate, until tribal unity was restored. The Royal Air Force co-operated with the South Waziristan Scouts and Frontier Constabulary by reporting attempted movement into the prohibited area. No offensive action was undertaken. By the middle of November the restrictions imposed had achieved their object, the tribe gave satisfactory assurances for the future, and the restrictions were removed.

8. *Wana Area, 1937.*—On the 17th February the Wana Brigade whilst engaged on normal training, was attacked about 20 miles west of Wana, by a party of some 50 tribesmen led by a notorious raider named Gul Jan. The casualties sustained were 2 killed, 2 died of wounds and 5 wounded. The tribal gang suffered approximately equal casualties. The troops were supported by aircraft working from the landing ground at Wana. The attack was not directly connected with the unrest in Waziristan.

9. *Waziristan, April 1936—January 1937.*—In April, a gathering of tribesmen, mainly composed of Daurs of the Tochi Valley, assembled on the borders of Bannu District with the intention of marching on Bannu in order to demonstrate in connection with a case which was before the Courts concerning the alleged abduction and conversion of a Hindu girl. Armoured cars from the Bannu garrison co-operated with the Tochi Scouts and the Frontier Constabulary to form a cordon to prevent the tribesmen from carrying out their intention. A demonstration by aircraft was also carried out, and a march through the area of the disaffected villages was carried out by troops of the Razmak Brigade. The dispersal of the gathering was eventually achieved by forming a cordon to cut off the assembled tribesmen from communications with the villages from which they were drawing their supplies, and by action against the property of certain ringleaders. These measures were carried out by the Tochi Scouts, minor assistance being afforded by troops of the Bannu Brigade. No hostilities took place.

10. In November hostile propaganda, that alleged Government interference in matters of religion, began to assume serious proportions in the Lower Khaisora Valley in North Waziristan. The agitation was led by a certain Faqir of Ipi village, who had taken a prominent part in the disturbance noted in the previous paragraph. In order to check the propaganda, and to strengthen the hands of the loyal tribal elders who were finding difficulty in dealing with the Faqir of Ipi, it was decided to send troops into the Lower Khaisora Valley. The right of free movement in this area had recently been acquired as the result of an agreement between Government and the Tori Khel Wazirs, who occupy this area.

The Khaisora Valley was accordingly entered from the direction of Damdil and Mir Ali by columns formed from the Razmak and Bannu Brigades. These columns were to join hands in the Lower Khaisora Valley and after a halt of one day return to their starting places. No punitive operations were contemplated. The movement of the columns was not dissimilar from the training marches which these columns are accustomed to carry out from time to time in Waziristan ; the pacific nature of which is well known to the tribesmen. In the spring of 1936 two columns had traversed the same route in an atmosphere of goodwill and friendliness.

The columns began their march on the 25th November and both met with unexpected resistance from several hundreds of hostile tribesmen whom the Faqir of Ipi had been able to collect. The two columns returned to Mir Ali on the 27th November having sustained casualties amounting to 25 killed and 107 wounded. The majority of these occurred on the 25th November. During the three days air co-operation was provided by the R. A. F.

11. It was evident that a considerable portion of the Tori Khel Wazir tribe was hostile, and that they had been supported by bad characters of the Mahsud tribe from the neighbouring valley of the Shaktu river, and also by detachments from other Wazir sections in North Waziristan. As there was danger of the trouble spreading, it was decided that troops should enter the Khaisora Valley in order to construct a road, and to punish and obtain the submission of the tribesmen.

Control of land and air operations, as well as political control of the area, were vested in the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command. Additional troops were despatched to the area which included the 2nd (Rawalpindi) Infantry Brigade, two additional infantry battalions, one light Tank Company and one armoured car company, and three batteries of mountain artillery. Two wing Headquarters and four squadrons of the Royal Air Force participated, under the direction of the Officer Commanding No. 1 (Indian) Group, R. A. F., Peshawar.

12. In addition to reconnaissance and co-operation with the troops, air action was carried out within a " proscribed area ", a zone which was drawn round the area in which the troops were operating. The limits of the proscribed area were extended from time to time as the advance progressed. Previous notice was given to the tribesmen describing in detail the topographical limits of the proscribed area, within which parties of tribesmen observed after the expiration of the warning notices were liable to attack from the air. Villages were not attacked, although they not infrequently afforded food and shelter to gatherings of hostile tribesmen.

13. The advance into the Khaisora Valley commenced on the 5th December. Little opposition was encountered. By the 28th December the Tori Khel Wazirs were prepared to submit, but a settlement was delayed by the presence in the Lower Khaisora Valley of several hundreds of hostile tribesmen drawn from the younger and irresponsible elements of neighbouring Wazirs tribal sections and from tribal areas further afield, where exaggerated stories of the previous fighting had obtained currency. These tribesmen were eventually dispersed by a series of minor operations undertaken early in January. On the 15th January a full assemblage of the elders of the Tori Khel Wazirs accepted Government terms and agreed to the retention by Government of 100 rifles, which had previously been deposited, as a token of tribal responsibility for the actions of the Faqir of Ipi so long as he remained in the territorial limits of the Tori Khel.

After this settlement the troops began to disperse, but troops of the Bannu Brigade remained at the eastern end of the Khaisora Valley in order to complete the construction of the new road which was being extended to join the main road, from Bannu to Mir Ali. This road construction was completed on the 24th February.

The casualties sustained after the 27th November and up to the 15th January amounted to 13 killed and 22 wounded, including casualties among the Tochi Scouts, bringing the total for these operations up to 38 killed and 129 wounded.

14. *Waziristan, February and March 1937.*—The gradual return to normal conditions, promised by the settlement of the 15th January, proved short-lived. The Faqir of Ipi soon resumed his anti-Government agitation and the loyal element among the Tori Khel Wazirs was unable to control him. The effect of this propaganda became apparent when, in the early part of February, two British officers were murdered on successive days whilst travelling on main roads which had for long been safe for travel without the necessity for an escort. Hostile gangs were formed and in February and March several minor offences were committed. These included cases of dacoity, the kidnapping of Hindus, extensive damage to telegraphic communications, attempts to destroy bridges and culverts on the main roads, and cases of sniping or minor attacks on troops.

15. By the end of February the signs of unrest were so widespread that as a precautionary measure the 1st (Abbottabad) Infantry Brigade with other reinforcements, including one armoured car company and one Light Tank Company, were moved to North Waziristan. In March other troops from the 1st (Indian) Division were drafted to Waziristan. The Faqir of Ipi had persuaded numbers of the "*khassadars*" or local tribal police, who are in normal times responsible for the policing and security of the roads, to desert. It was therefore necessary for the troops to take over the duty of protecting the roads in North Waziristan. The camps and piquets of the troops engaged in this duty were on many occasions sniped or subjected to minor but resolute attacks by gangs of hostile tribesmen.

16. On the 29th March a more serious incident occurred. The 1st (Abbottabad) Infantry Brigade, camped at Damdil whilst engaged in road protection duty, was attacked by a body of fanatical tribesmen numbering from 700 to 1,000. A fierce action ensued until dusk, in the course of which the 1st Infantry Brigade sustained casualties amounting to 26 killed and 42 wounded. The tribesmen are believed to have suffered 94 killed and 64 seriously wounded.

17. During March in addition to co-operation with the land forces limited air action was undertaken by one Squadron of the R. A. F. On the 10th and 11th March, and again on the 23rd and 24th March, after the issue of the customary warning notices, air action was taken against sub-sections of the Madda Khel Wazir tribe who had been affording shelter to the murderers of a British officer. On the 5th March a demonstration of aircraft was carried out over the area in which the Faqir of Ipi had assembled a tribal meeting with hostile intentions. Meanwhile the Faqir of Ipi continued to receive visitors and to disseminate hostile propaganda from his Headquarters at Arsal Kot, in the Shaktu Valley. Accordingly, from the 17th March, after the issue of notices giving due warning, air action was taken against parties of tribesmen observed within a radius of three miles of Arsal. The area was subsequently reduced to a radius of one mile, and from the 26th March this action was

suspended in order to facilitate negotiations between various well-disposed tribal elders of the Utmanzai Wazirs and the Faqir of Ipi. Tribal unrest on a considerable scale still continued, however, at the end of the period under report.

III.—Indianization of the Defence Services.

18. *Government's policy.*—In the corresponding Summary issued during 1934-1935 a recapitulation was made of Government's policy in connection with the Indianization of the Defence Services. The relevant extract is again republished in Appendix I to this publication in order that the progress of Indianization during 1936-37 may more clearly be followed.

19. *Army, Navy and Air Force examinations.*—There was again a reduction, as compared with the previous year, in the total numbers presenting themselves for examination for entry into the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force. At the Interview and Record Board for entry to the Indian Military Academy held in October 1936, at which 12 candidates for the Royal Indian Navy were also examined, 124 presented themselves as against 131 in the Autumn of 1935. At a Board held in April 1937, 72 candidates appeared as against 89 in the Spring of 1936. The distribution of the year's candidates by communities and by Provinces, etc., is given in Appendix II.

Appendix III contains extracts of more general interest from the reports of the Board. The drop in numbers need not be regarded as serious so long as it continues to be due to the elimination of the class of candidate who is manifestly not up to the required standard. That the tendency is in this direction may be inferred from the fact that the percentage of candidates who were awarded less than the qualifying minimum marks by the Board is decreasing. Once again the numbers appearing in April tended to be smaller than in October which appears to confirm the presumption previously made that the coincidence of University examinations with the Spring examination for the Indian Military Academy reacts adversely on the number of entries for the latter.

20. *Indian Military Academy.*—During the year cadets were admitted to the Indian Military Academy as follows :—

August 1936	..	16	By competitive examination.
		20	from the Indian Army, and
		10	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
Total	..	46	
February 1937	..	15	by competitive examination.
		19	from the Indian Army, and
		9	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
Total	..	43	

In the passing out examination held in June 1936, of 30 cadets all were successful, and at the examination held in December 1936, 24 out of 25 cadets were successful. On this occasion the cadet who failed entered the Indian Military Academy through the competitive examination.

21. *Intake of Indian Commissioned officers.*—The results of the year's intake of Indian commissioned officers are shown in the following figures for the year under review. Those of the previous year are added for purposes of comparison :—

Numbers holding commissions as combatant officers.

	31st March 1936.	31st March 1937.
Indian Land Forces	233	285
Royal Indian Navy	9	11
Indian Air Force	9	11
Total	251	307

22. *Indian Army cadets.*—In the Summary published last year reference was made to a scheme by which cadets from the ranks of the Indian Army would be selected for admission to the Indian Military Academy on the results of a two years' course at the Kitchener College, Nowgong. These courses have now been instituted.

Commencing with the August 1938 term at the Indian Military Academy, all the Indian Army cadets admitted will be selected from candidates undergoing courses at the Kitchener College. It is hoped that such selections will result in a higher class of Indian Army cadet, together with a lower average of the age at which he will be commissioned.

23. *Informal Conference on Indian Military Academy.*—As a result of a resolution moved by the Hon'ble Mr. V. V. Kalikar in the Council of State on the 16th March 1936, His Excellency the Defence Member promised to convene an informal conference of Members of both Houses to discuss the measures that could be taken to improve the quality of candidates for admission into the Indian Military Academy. After several meetings the conference completed its deliberations in October 1936.

A memorandum giving the proposals discussed by the Conference was published in the Press under Government of India, Home Department Press Note No. F. 154|9|36, dated the 10th October 1936.

24. *Conclusions of the Conference.*—The following is a brief account of the progress made in examining the items on which conclusions were not reached in conference :—

(*i*) *The Indenture Bond.*—This has been redrafted, and the clause regarding the payment to the Secretary of State of Rs. 5,000 now applies only in the case of an officer leaving the Indian Army owing to wilful misconduct, or in the case of resignation of commission before completion of five years' service.

(*ii*) *Local Government scholarships at the Indian Military Academy.*—All local Governments, who were not already offering scholarships, were approached on the subject. The response was very satisfactory. Local Governments proved sympathetic and were prepared to authorise scholarships to cadets from their own Provinces, subject to the consent of Provincial Legislatures.

The details of such Provincial scholarships as have been formally approved, will be found in the "Regulations respecting admission to the Indian Military Academy, 1937", which has recently been reprinted, and can be obtained on payment from the Manager of Publications, Delhi.

(*iii*) *Reduction of the fees at the Indian Military Academy.*—It has not been found possible to reduce the fees at present. This question is, however, due to come up for quinquennial examination in 1938.

(*iv*) *Proposals to reduce the length of the course at the Indian Military Academy, to introduce a higher and lower scale of fees, and to reduce the age of entry from 18 to 17 years.*—These questions have been examined, but are not considered possible not only for administrative reasons, but also on account of the probable adverse effect on the efficient instruction given to cadets.

(*v*) *Proposal to give additional emoluments in some form to young officers during their years' attachment to British units.*—This question has been approached with great care, and is still under final consideration. It is hoped that it will be possible to give some increased allowances to relieve the necessary expenses incurred by young officers during their initial years of service.

(*vi*) *The value of the Diploma at the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun.*—While it is agreed that the standard of education given at the College is entirely satisfactory, and the increasing number of successes at the competitive examination for admission to the Indian Military Academy support this opinion, the question of the advisability of giving up a separate Diploma, and substituting the Senior Cambridge examination, is under consideration.

(*vii*) *The methods and working of the "Army Class" at the Government College, Lahore.*—As requested by Members, the details of this "Army Class" have been obtained through the courtesy of the Principal of the Government College, Lahore, and have been circulated to all other educational establishments in India.

25. *Indian Regular Reserve of Officers.*—Previously all officers of the Indian Army who retired with a pension, were liable to recall to army service under a Royal Warrant. In future, all regular officers of the Indian Army, who retire with a pension or gratuity, will become members

of the Indian Regular Reserve of Officres. They will, up to certain age limits, be liable to recall to Army service in a grave emergency or when a grave emergency appears imminent.

26. *Indian Wing of the A. I. R. O.*—Recruitment for the Indian Wing of the Army in India Reserve of Officers, referred to in the summary issued last year, has been opened. The response has been most encouraging. It has been decided to allot quotas to the various military areas.

27. *Indian Army Veterinary Corps.*—The policy of granting commissions in the Indian Army Veterinary Corps to Indian gentlemen possessing the diploma of M. R. C. V. S. has been pursued and the total number of Indian commissioned officers to date is 13. It has now become apparent that sufficient candidates possessing the requisite qualifications will not be available for about 4 years.

Consequent on the inadequacy of the supply of Indian candidates having the requisite qualifications, which was brought to the notice of the public by official Press notices, there is evidence to prove that a number of Indian gentlemen have now embarked on a veterinary career and it is hoped that after some four years or so, the supply of candidates for commission in the Indian Army Veterinary Corps will equal the demand.

At the request of the Defence Department, a comprehensive pamphlet has been prepared by the High Commissioner for India in London for the information of parents and others interested. The pamphlet gives full details of colleges, fees, courses, and cost of veterinary education in England.

28. *Farms Department.*—The steady progress mentioned in the report for 1935-36 towards the Indianization of half the cadre of Farm Managers and Assistant Managers in the Grass Farms Department has been maintained.

Four Indian Managers and Assistant Managers have been appointed during 1936-37.

29. *Remount Department.*—Certain British ranks in the Remount Department are gradually being replaced by " Indian Line Overseers ". Owing to the fact that no further vacancies have occurred during the year the number of Indians appointed remains at 4.

30. *Ordnance Factories.*—An Indian gentleman with requisite academic qualifications, who had been under training in the Factories, has been appointed as an Assistant Works Manager in the Ordnance Factories.

31. *Surveyors of Works.*—As a result of the examinations held in March 1936, three subordinates (two European military and one Indian civilian) were promoted to gazetted rank as Surveyors of Works and 22 subordinates (two European military and twenty Indian civilian) were appointed as Surveyors Assistants.

The second examination was held in April 1937.

32. *Furniture and Stores Branch.*—The authorized establishment of Supervisors, Furniture and Stores Branch, was completed by appointing Indian candidates against vacancies released by casualties among military sub-divisional officers of this Branch.

33. *Royal Indian Army Service Corps.*—Satisfactory progress was maintained in the substitution of Indian warrant officers for British warrant and non-commissioned officers in the Royal Indian Army Service Corps.

34. *Units Indianised.*—A list of units in process of Indianization is shewn in Appendix IV.

Since the publication of a similar Appendix in last year's Report it has been decided to Indianize an Animal Transport Company (Mule) at Razmak and one at Poona.

35. *Royal Artillery.*—The elimination of the six light batteries of the Royal Artillery and their replacement by a similar number of mountain batteries is proceeding in accordance with the programme notified in last year's summary. Three light batteries have already been eliminated and three new mountain batteries were formed simultaneously at Quetta. Changes will be effected in two other batteries in November 1937 and in the remaining battery in November 1938.

IV.—Army.

36. *Despatch of troops overseas.*—All detachments and units which were despatched overseas to Abyssinia, Aden and Port Sudan returned to India during September 1936 with the exception of the detachment of the 5th Battalion, 14th Punjab Regiment, which arrived at Bombay from Abyssinia on the 7th December 1936. The small permanent legation guard which was previously maintained in Addis Ababa was also withdrawn and arrived in Bombay on the same date.

37. *Reorganization of Indian Cavalry.*—Orders were issued for the reorganization of Indian Cavalry on the following lines, to be completed by the 30th September 1937 :—

(*i*) The Indian Cavalry will be formed into three groups, each containing six Active regiments and one Training regiment.

(*ii*) Three regiments will be converted into Training regiments. These will be located at the permanent centres of Jhansi, Ferozepore and Lucknow and will carry out the peace and war training of the recruits of all regiments of the group, and the administration and training of the reservists.

(*iii*) The remaining eighteen regiments will be retained as Active regiments.

38. *Central Military Abattoir and Cold Storage Scheme.*—A scheme is under development for the supply of frozen meat to British troops. The Abattoir is to be located in the military area at Lahore. A contract has been concluded for the erection of the Abattoir and all connected buildings and also for the necessary power station for the supply of steam and electricity.

A contract has been concluded with the Cold Storage Company of India for the hire of cold storage space at the following stations :—

Wana.	Kohat.	Rawalpindi.	Ambala.
Manzai.	Thal.	Sialkot.	
Bannu.	Quetta.	Ferozepore.	
Razmak.	Peshawar.	Jullundur.	
Mari Indus	Nowshera.	Multan.	

The capacity of the Cold Storage Depots to be erected allows for space for civil users as well as for military requirements. Further contracts will be made as the need arises.

Refrigerated road transport is in an advanced stage of development. Experiments in refrigerated rail transport have been started in Lahore.

The development of Cold Storage Depots and the introduction of refrigerated road and rail transport, in which activities the Army has given a pioneer lead, should have a far reaching effect on the civil trade of India. Not only will the movement of perishable commodities such as fish, fruit, eggs and dairy be over wider areas and thus find additional markets, but seasonal produce, such as fruit, will be given a greatly extended period for sale.

39. *Changes in Artillery Equipment.*—In connection with the decision to re-arm and mechanize the 4 batteries of Royal Horse Artillery, orders were placed for sufficient dragons and other mechanically propelled vehicles for one battery. It is hoped to change over this battery from a horsed to a mechanized basis during the latter part of 1937.

40. *Light Automatics.*—The manufacture of 200 Vickers Berthier guns in the Rifle Factory at Ishapore was completed. These light automatics have satisfactorily passed all their tests. This is the first occasion on which a light machine gun has been manufactured in any Government Factory in the British Empire. A further 400 guns are scheduled to be manufactured during 1937-38.

30 Infantry Battalions now remain to be equipped with this gun.

41. *Changes of motor transport policy.*—Hitherto civil motor transport in India has been relatively unorganised. Gradually, however, larger transport concerns are becoming established and as this movement develops the army will be able to rely, in an increasing measure, on civil transport in time of war, provided that the potential war units are formed in peace. To this end, and as an experimental measure, the Government of India sanctioned a scheme for the subsidizing of two civil mechanical transport sections each consisting of thirty 30-cwt. four-wheeled Fort V-8 lorries, complete with adequate driving, supervising and artificer personnel and spare parts. These conform in essentials of organization to the motor transport sections of the army. The experiment is being pursued.

42. *Oil cooker equipment.*—The oil cooker equipment which was referred to in last year's report has now been issued to all units of the Field army and covering Troops. It was again used under service conditions during this year.

43. *Rural reconstruction.*—During the year under review, two publications, on the subjects of Citizenship and Rural Reconstruction, were issued for study in the Indian Army and for use as text books for educational examinations.

With a view to increasing the interest which is now being taken in this subject, prizes were offered for essays.

44. *Finance.*—The budget estimate of the Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air Force) for 1936-37 was fixed at Rs. 45.45 crores. This included a sum of Rs. 60 lakhs for the reconstruction of Quetta and other expenditure arising out of the earthquake. The provision for the ordinary Defence expenditure was thus Rs. 44.85 crores or Rs. 13 lakhs less than that for 1935-36, due mainly to the elimination of the transactions relating to the Indian Military Service Family Pensions which have been funded (Rs. 34 lakhs) partly counterbalanced by an increase in the cost of Ordnance Services (20 lakhs) and restoration of the emergency cut in pay of British soldiers (5 lakhs).

The Budget for 1937-38 has been fixed at Rs. 44.62 crores inclusive of Rs. 75 lakhs for the reconstruction of Quetta and Rs. 6 lakhs for expenditure on the Indian Contingent despatched to the United Kingdom for the Coronation. The provision for ordinary defence expenditure is thus Rs. 43.81 crores or 104 lakhs less than the corresponding figure for 1936-37. This decrease is mainly due to the separation of Burma (104 lakhs) and Aden (20 lakhs), partly counterbalanced by increases under Ordnance Services and grain prices.

V.—Royal Air Force and Indian Air Force.

45. *Training flights.*—The Royal Air Force in India carried out the following long distance flights during the period under review.

Between 20th and 24th October, 1936, a Valentia of the Bomber Transport Flight carrying the Air Officer Commanding flew to Gilgit and back. Between the 9th and 11th November, 1936, the Foreign Secretary was flown to Gilgit from Chaklala. In January-February, 1937, No. 11 (Bomber) Squadron (12 Hart) and No. 27 (Bomber) Squadron (12 Wapiti) together with the Bomber Transport Flight flew to Singapore and back for the purpose of participating in a combined exercise.

The following flights were made to India by Air Force Units located in other countries.

In May-June, 1936, a Flight of No. 84 (Bomber) Squadron (4 Vincent) flew from Iraq to Karachi and back. In October-November, 1936, No. 230 (Flying Boat) Squadron consisting of five Singapore III flying boats flew across India *en route* to Singapore. In November, 1936, No. 36 (Torpedo-Bomber) Squadron (12 Vincent) flew from Singapore to the North-West Frontier Province and back. In January-February, 1936, No. 45 (Bomber) Squadron (12 Vincent) flew from Egypt to the North-West Frontier and back.

46. *Purchase of new aircraft.*—No. 28 (Army Co-operation) Squadron were re-equipped with Audax (Kestrel 1-B.-5 engine) by July, 1936. This squadron had previously had Wapiti aircraft.

47. *Strength of Indians in the Air Force.*—At the end of the year under review these strengths were as follows :—

(*a*) *Personnel serving with the Indian Air Force.*—

Officers, General Duties	9
Equipment	1
	10
Combatant ranks—	
Ex-apprentices	31
Airmen other than apprentices mustered to trade	19
Recruits entered direct and not yet mustered ..	4
..	54

(*b*) *Personnel of the Indian Air Force attached to and working with Royal Air Force Units.*—

Combatant ranks (M. T. personnel)	114
Non-combatant ranks	294
Non-combatant enrolled followers	298

(*c*) *Personnel under Instructions.*—

Indian apprentices still under training ..	19
Total ..	725
Grant Total ..	789

48. *Indian Air Force.*—The Second flight is now nearing completion. Recruitment for this flight was, however, slower than was anticipated and in consequence the formation of the 3rd Flight which was to have been formed in April 1937, has been postponed for one year.

49. *Finance.*—The Budget for 1936-37 was fixed at Rs. 197.94 lakhs or Rs. 1.52 lakhs less than that for 1935-36 due mainly to smaller expenditure on works and purchase of stores.

The Budget for 1937-38 has been fixed at Rs. 196.02 lakhs or Rs. 1.92 lakhs less than the budget for 1936-37. The decrease is due mainly to smaller provision for the purchase of stores, partly counterbalanced by increased provision for expenditure on works, mainly regrants of amounts surrendered in the previous year.

VI.—Royal Indian Navy.

50. *Recruitment of officers.*—Two officers' vacancies, one in the executive branch and the other in the engineer branch, were offered for

competition in 1936. Of the ten candidates who appeared for the executive branch, only one qualified and was sent to England for training in January 1937. Twenty candidates appeared for the engineer branch and two satisfied the examiners. The first successful candidate has been selected and embarked for the United Kingdom for training in April 1937.

51. *Training of boys.*—In connexion with the proposed transfer of the Boys' Training Establishment of the Royal Indian Navy at Manora, a project estimate for new buildings required is now being prepared by the local Military Engineer Services authorities.

52. *Finance.*—The Budget for 1936-37 was fixed at Rs. 80.54 lakhs or Rs. 14.43 lakhs in excess of the budget for 1935-36 due mainly to the inclusion of a sum of Rs. 14 lakhs towards the R. I. N. Sinking Fund.

The Budget for 1937-38 has been fixed at Rs. 69.14 lakhs or Rs. 11.40 lakhs less than the budget for 1936-37. The decrease is due mainly to the elimination of provision for the R. I. N. Sinking Fund (14 lakhs) and separation of Burma, partly counterbalanced by increased expenditure on the revision of pay and reorganisation of staffs and provision for the construction of a wireless and a signal station at Bombay.

VII.—APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.

EXTRACT FROM "A SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE DEFENCE SERVICES IN INDIA, 1934-35".

Indianisation.

It is perhaps desirable to recapitulate the following facts regarding the Government's policy in connection with the Indianisation of the Army :—

(*a*) The accepted policy aims as a preliminary at the Indianisation of the units which normally go to constitute one division of all arms (including ancillary services) and one cavalry brigade. This entails the Indianisation of certain existing units and the raising of new units of certain other arms (*e.g.*, Artillery), of which no Indian units existed previously.

(*b*) The units now in process of Indianisation are detailed in Appendix I*. These units will move in relief in the normal manner except that in the case of the larger units (*e.g.*, cavalry regiments and infantry battalions) differences in establishment make it necessary to provide additional accommodation in certain stations. Stations have been selected for them so that units will in turn gain experience in all roles, *viz.*, field army, covering troops and internal security duties.

(*c*) The general policy adopted as regards the Indianisation of units entails the following steps :—

(*i*) the increase of the establishment of officers (exclusively of Viceroy's commissioned officers) to enable the new Indian officers, whether commissioned from Woolwich and Sandhurst or from the Indian Military Academy, to join their units as troop or platoon commanders ;

(*ii*) the gradual elimination of Viceroy's commissioned officers ; and

(*iii*) the introduction of warrant ranks into Indianising units in supersession of the present establishment of non-commissioned officers above the rank of havildar.

(*d*) Indian officers commissioned from the Indian Military Academy will bear the title of 'Indian commissioned officers' and will receive commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces.

* * * * * *

(*e*) The same form of commission is being granted to Indian officers of the Indian Army Veterinary Corps and to Indian officers of the Indian Medical Service commissioned after the 1st January 1935.

(*f*) On passing out of the Indian Military Academy, cadets are commissioned as 2nd-Lieutenants in the Special List, Indian Land Forces, and those going to the cavalry and infantry are attached for a period of one year to a British infantry unit. Cadets going to

*See Appendix IV of this publication.

other arms of the Service receive post-graduate training as follows :—

Artillery.—A four months' course at the School of Artillery, Kakul, and attachment to a Royal Field Artillery unit for one year.

Engineers.—A course of approximately three years at the Thomason College, Roorkee, followed by a six months' course with the King George's Own Bengal Sappers and Miners at that station.

(*N. B.*—A special Army R. E. Instructor was appointed to Thomason College in the year under review. In addition to his instructional duties he will be responsible for the welfare and discipline of the officer students.)

Signals.—A course of eighteen months at the Signal Training School, followed by a qualifying course at the Army Signal School for three months and attachment to a non-Indianising unit for six months.

* * * * * * *

APPENDIX II.

Communities and provinces of candidates for entry to the Indian Military Academy who presented themselves before the Interview and Record Boards in 1936-37.

(*a*) Candidates by communties.		October/ November 1936.	March/April 1937.	
Hindus ..	Brahmins .. 19	73	(Brahmins .. 9	39
	Kshatriyas .. 31		Kshatriyas .. 20	
	Kayasthas .. 3		Kayasthas .. 2	
	Vaishyas .. 8		Vaishyas .. 2	
	Non-Brahmins 10		Non-Brahmins .. 6	
	Others .. 2			
Muslims		21		15
Sikhs		24		15
Parsis		3		*Nil.*
Anglo-Indians		2		1
Europeans		2		*Nil.*
Indian Christian		1		1
No religion		*Nil.*		1
Buddhist (Burmese) ..		1		*Nil.*
		127		72

(*b*) Candidates by Provinces and States.	October/ November 1936.	March/April 1937.
Provinces.		
Punjab	56	32
Madras	5	2
N. W. F. P.	5	3
U. P.	24	7
Bengal	3	2
Bombay	10	6
Burma	6	1

(*b*) Candidates by Provinces and States.	October/ November 1935.		March/April 1937.	
C. P.	3		2	
Bihar	1		1	
Sind	1		*Nil.*	
Delhi	1		2	
Baluchistan	1		*Nil.*	
Ajmer	1		*Nil.*	
Coorg	*Nil.*		2	
Indian States.				
Kashmir	1		2	
Udaipur	1		*Nil.*	
Chitral	1		*Nil.*	
Hyderabad	2		1	
Baroda	1		*Nil.*	
Jaipur	1		*Nil.*	
Punjab States	1		*Nil.*	
Madras	1		*Nil.*	
Kolhapur	1	10	1	12
Baluchistan	*Nil.*		1	
Ajmer	*Nil.*		1	
Cooch Behar	*Nil.*		1	
Bikaner	*Nil.*		1	
Rajkot	*Nil.*		1	
Mysore	*Nil.*		1	
Amb	*Nil.*		1	
Total	132		89	

APPENDIX III.

Extracts from the proceedings of the Interview and Record Boards during 1936-37.

(*a*) OCTOBER|NOVEMBER 1936.

Army candidates.

Of the 124 candidates who appeared before the Interview and Record Board no less than 58 or 47 per cent. failed to obtain the minimum qualifying marks. It is clear that a large number of the candidates entering for the examination were not suited to an army career and were merely wasting both their parents' money and the Board's time by entering. On the other hand, there were 14 candidates of outstanding merit who obtained from 450 to 500 marks and 21 more who obtained 400 marks and over. It is noticeable that only 3 candidates who obtained less than 400 marks for Interview and Record succeeded in finding a place among the first fifteen candidates.

(*b*) OCTOBER|NOVEMBER 1936.

Navy ~~Army~~ *candidates.*

Out of 12 candidates who appeared before the Interview and Record Board 4 failed to obtain the minimum qualifying marks. Of the remaining 8, two were outstanding, each obtaining 450 marks or over, while the remaining 6 obtained between 300 and 370 marks. The quality of the candidates was thus no more than average.

(*c*) MARCH|APRIL 1937.

Army candidates.

As usual the Punjab supplied the greatest number of the candidates, 32 out of a total of 72. The Board regrets that candidates from the southern and central parts of the country were not more numerous. Nevertheless it is interesting to note that the Southern India candidates, including 2 from Madras, 2 from Coorg, and 1 each from Hyderabad and Mysore States, had no failures, while the only 2 Bengal candidates also qualified. Of the candidates from Bombay, the United Provinces, Bihar and the Central Provinces, taken as a whole, precisely half qualified and half failed. Taking the States as a whole, out of 12 candidates appearing 8 qualified and 4 failed. Two of these candidates, both of whom qualified, were members of ruling houses.

All candidates were marked on their merits, apart from considerations of province of origin or previous family connection with the Army. Out of 42 candidates who qualified 24 came from families which, generally speaking, had no previous association with the army, while 18 came from families which had such associations. On the other hand, out of those who obtained between 400 and 500 marks there were 12 belonging to what might be described as military families and 7 belonging to families whose traditions of Government service lay on the civil side. The best candidates undoubtedly were those coming from the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College at Dehra Dun. 11 candidates appeared from this institution, of whom none failed, while the average mark obtained was 409. If the two weakest candidates be excluded, the average mark obtained was 455. This is a highly creditable result for any college.

In all 18 successful candidates, apart from those attending schools where no such facilities exist, had been enrolled in the University Training Corps or other

similar military training units. Only 3 candidates, who might have joined such units but failed to do so, succeeded in obtaining a qualifying mark. A number of candidates, who had failed to join the University Training Corps, still complained that their practical training in Science subjects at their colleges interfered with their University Training Corps drill, but in some of these cases it appeared to the Board that this was an excuse offered by the candidates for their failure to join the University Training Corps rather than a real obstacle. Nevertheless, the Board think that, if possible, further attempts should be made to persuade those colleges and Universities at which the difficulty complained of does occur to see that facilities for joining the University Training Corps are provided for Science students who wish to join the Army as their career.

The Board noticed, with some surprise, the lack of knowledge displayed by a large number of candidates of the particular branch of the Army for which they said they would like to elect, if successful in obtaining entrance to the Indian Military Academy. For example, candidates were strangely ignorant of the organization of Cavalry Units and had only the haziest ideas of the functions of the Royal Engineers or the Royal Artillery.

Taken as a whole, the results of the interview prove conclusively the advantage which candidates obtain from attending one of the schools definitely catering for a military education.

APPENDIX IV.

The following Army units are in process of being Indianized :—

Cavalry—

3rd Cavalry.

7th Light Cavalry.

16th Light Cavalry.

Engineers—

One Field Troop, Q. V. O. Madras Sappers and Miners, No. 44 Divisional H. Q. Company, Q. V. O. Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 15 Field Company, Q. V. O. Madras Sappers and Miners.

No. 5 Field Company, K. G. O. Bengal Sappers and Miners.

No. 22 Field Company, Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners.

Artillery—

"A" Field Brigade, Indian Regiment of Artillery (4 Batteries).

Signals—

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Infantry—

2nd Battalion, 1st Punjab Regiment.

5th Battalion, 2nd Punjab Regiment.

5th Royal Battalion, 5th Mahratta Light Infantry.

5th Battalion (Napier's), 6th Rajputana Rifles.

1st Battalion (Q. V. O. L. I.), 7th Rajput Regiment.

5th Battalion (Burma), 8th Punjab Regiment.

5th Battalion (K. G. O.), (Jacob's Rifles), 10th Baluch Regiment.

5th Battalion (Duke of Connaught's Own), 11th Sikh Regiment.

4th Battalion (Sikhs), 12th Frontier Force Regiment.

6th Royal Battalion (Scinde), 13th Frontier Force Regiment.

1st Battalion, 14th Punjab Regiment.

4th Battalion, 19th Hyderabad Regiment.

Supply and Transport—

No. 6 (Bolarum) District Supply Company, R. I. A. S. C.

No. 3 Animal Transport Company (Mule), R. I. A. S. C.

No. 12 Animal Transport Company (Mule), R. I. A. S. C.

One Animal Transport Company at Razmak.

One Animal Transport Company at Poona.

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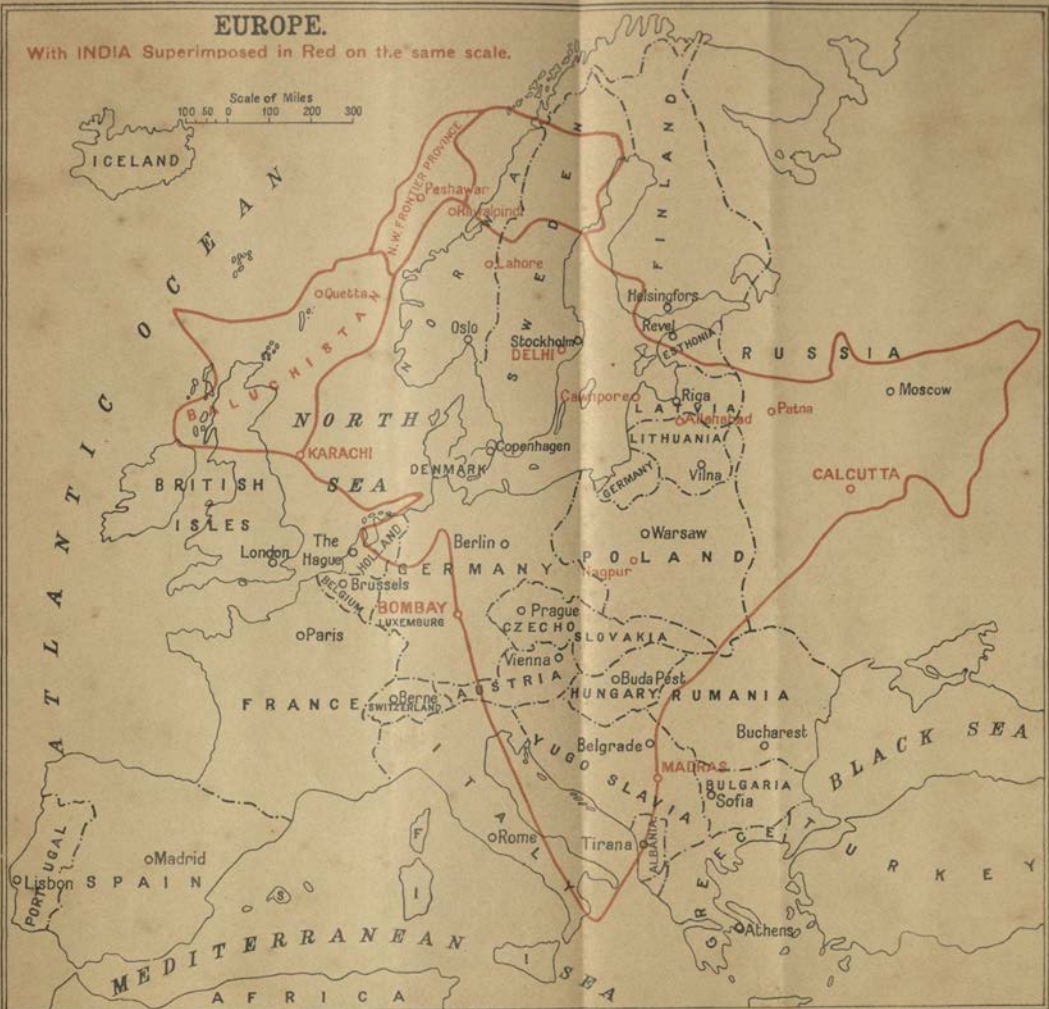
A Summary of Important Matters concerning the Defence Services in India, 1937-38.

EUROPE.

With INDIA Superimposed in Red on the same scale.



Army Section 6 D. O. S. of I. No. 8927. August 1937.

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A SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DEFENCE SERVICES IN INDIA, 1937-1938.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL.

1. *Object.*—In the course of a debate in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th of March 1934, the Defence Secretary promised to consider the possibility of producing annually for the benefit of the Members of the Central Legislature an account of the chief activities of the Army during the previous 12 months. In the following pages, a brief description of the more important measures put into effect during the period 1st April 1937 to the 31st March 1938 are given.

It is hoped that the information contained therein will prove of interest and of use to Members.

2. *Roles of the Defence Forces in India.*—Defence forces are maintained by the Government of India for the defence of India against external aggression and the maintenance of internal peace and tranquillity. This definition was accepted by the Legislative Assembly in 1921. The definition is qualified by the reservation that the forces maintained are not intended to repel external attack by a major military power, though the duties of these forces may include initial resistance to such an attack pending the arrival of Imperial reinforcements or the exercise elsewhere by Imperial forces of pressure which would relieve the situation.

The duties of each defence service are explained below :—

(*a*) *Royal Indian Navy.*—In so far as seaborne attacks by a major power are concerned, and also for the safety of her sea communications, India relies on the protection of the Royal Navy, supplemented by such assistance as the small sea-going vessels of the Royal Indian Navy can provide. The primary function of the Royal Indian Navy is the provision of local naval defence for the protection of shipping against raiders, mines and submarines in the immediate approaches to the major seaports of India. To this end, as finances permit, it is the policy of the Government of India :—

(*i*) to strengthen the active service and training establishments of the Royal Indian Navy ;

(*ii*) to organize a reserve both of officers and trained ratings ;

(*iii*) to provide armament and other equipment for use in auxiliary vessels to be equipped and employed on local naval defence in war ; and

(*iv*) to maintain a small but efficient squadron of sea-going combatant vessels.

(*b*) *Army.*—The roles of the army are :—

(*i*) to support and assist the civil armed forces in controlling the tribes on the North West Frontier. Troops allotted for this purpose are termed the Covering Troops ;

(*ii*) to support the civil power in the maintenance of internal law and order in peace and war, to guard the main arteries of communication within India itself and to undertake the local defence of major ports in time of war. Troops allotted for this purpose are termed Internal Security troops ; and

(*iii*) to undertake operations in the defence of the land frontiers and coasts of India against external aggression, in anticipation of the arrival of Imperial assistance. Troops allotted for this purpose are termed the Field Army.

As finances permit, the modernisation of the army to keep pace with new developments is being undertaken, particularly in regard to the mechanisation of both British and Indian units.

(*c*) *Air Forces in India.*—The duties of the Air Forces in India include co-operation with the Covering Troops in the control of the tribes on the North West Frontier ; with the Field Army in the defence of India from external aggression, and with the Army and Navy in the defence of India's coasts and major ports.

In addition the Air Forces in India are prepared to act independently of the other defence services either in the defence of India against external aggression or in the control of the North West Frontier tribes.

Although the Air Forces in India are at present equipped and armed on a scale below that obtaining in the United Kingdom, steps are being taken, as finances permit, to introduce aircraft and armament of more modern types.

3. *Strength.*—The Army in India is, as has already been stated, divided according to its duties into covering troops ; the field army and internal security troops including troops for coast defence.

The majority of the fighting units and a proportion of the administrative and auxiliary units and services are in being on peace establishments and can readily be brought on to war establishments in personnel and equipment. Arrangements have been made for the rapid mobilization of those administrative units which do not exist in peace and which are required for the covering troops and for a portion of the field army.

The covering troops are located in peace in suitable areas on the frontier between Chitral and Baluchistan and are organised in Districts and Brigades.

On 31st March, 1938 *the field army* was organised into four cavalry brigades and four infantry divisions with a proportion of Army and Line of Communication troops. As a result of subsequent reorganisations referred to later, the number of cavalry brigades and infantry divisions will be reduced to three each. Units are stationed throughout India suitably grouped for command and training.

Internal security troops are stationed at the ports, in or near important centres, and on the main lines of communication between the ports and bases of the army and the North West Frontier.

There are in addition a number of training units depots, and school.

Units outside India.—Certain units have been lent to the governments of the United Kingdom and Burma. All charges in respectof such units are met by the government concerned.

4. *Comparative size of India and Europe.*—As the vast extent of India with its 5,000 miles of land frontier, and approximately the same stretch of coastline, to be protected may not be appreciated, the attached* sketch map showing India super-imposed on a map of Europe may be of interest. It will be seen that Calcutta lies in the heart of Russia, Quetta in the extreme north of Scotland, Lahore in Sweden, Bombay in Bavaria while Cochin lies in the southern part of Italy.

5. *Finance.*—The budget estimate for the Defence Services, which include the Navy Army, and Air Force, for 1937-38 was fixed at Rs. 44·62 crores, inclusive of a sum of 75 lakhs for the re-construction of Quetta. The provision for the ordinary Defence expenditure is thus Rs. 43·87 crores or Rs. 98 lakhs less than the corresponding figure for 1936-37. This decrease was mainly due to the separation of Burma (Rs. 104 lakhs) and Aden (Rs. 20 lakhs) partly counterbalanced by an increase under Ordnance Services.

The budget for 1938-39 has been fixed at Rs. 45·18 crores, inclusive of the sum of Rs. 75 lakhs for the re-construction of Quetta. The comparative figures of Defence expenditure since 1930 are as follows :—

year.	Crores of Rs.	
1930-31	54·30	
1931-32	51·76	
1932-33	46·74	
1933-34	44·42	
1934-35	44·34	
1935-36	44·98	
1936-37	45·45	
1937-38	44·62	(Estimate)

Actual expenditure for 1937-38 has not yet been finally computed. It is approximately Rs. 47·22 crores. The increase over the budget estimate is mainly due to the operations in Waziristan and the abandonment of the Lahore Abattoir scheme.

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* Frontispicec.

CHAPTER II.

Operations.

6. *Operations in Waziristan.*—As explained in the last summary, unrest in North Waziristan gradually increased during March 1937. By the 5th April, which marked the period of grace allowed to the Tori Khel to comply with Government terms, no settlement had been reached. The Tori Khel were therefore informed that :—

(*a*) many of their allowances were forfeit ; and

(*b*) they would be excluded from certain settled districts ;

(*c*) villages within 3 miles of the Bannu-Razmak road were to be evacuated ; and

(*d*) a belt of country in the lower Khaisora valley and another surrounding Arsal Kot, the headquarters of the Faqir of Ipi, were to be evacuated. Any persons remaining in those areas would be regarded as hostile to Government and liable to air action.

These areas are described hereinafter as " proscribed areas "; in all cases, ample time was allowed to enable inhabitants to comply with Government orders and leave the area.

Despite this action the situation did not improve and in South Waziristan, the Mahsud situation also gave cause for anxiety. On the 9th April 1937 a convoy was attacked in the Shahur Tangi by a gang of mixed Mahsuds and Bhittannis and, although the gallant resistance of the small escort of armoured cars and infantry, assisted by aircraft, kept the tribesmen at bay, considerable casualties occurred amongst the personnel of the convoy.

This outrage further encouraged unrest amongst the Mahsuds, a gang of whom unsuccessfully attacked the South Waziristan Scouts' post at Tiarza, 17 miles north of Wana. Air action after due warning was taken against those responsible for the attack on the convoy and on Tiarza post.

In anticipation of military operations having to be undertaken on a considerable scale, the remainder of the 1st Indian Division, and the 9th (Jhansi) Infantry Brigade were ordered to Waziristan. On the 21st April the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, was vested with full political control in Waziristan, and was instructed by Government to " restore peaceful conditions throughout the area".

7. *Operations in the Khaisora Valley, 23rd April—3rd May 1937.*—By the middle of April, large numbers of tribesmen had assembled between the Khaisora and Shaktu valleys. The 2nd and 3rd Infantry Brigades accordingly advanced from Mir Ali on the 23rd April but, until the night 27/28th April, met with little opposition when the tribesmen made determined but unsuccessful attacks on the perimeter and camp piquets of the 2nd Infantry Brigade. On the 29th April an engagement took place and the main enemy forces were dispersed. After this action the enemy avoided contact with our forces, and the latter returned to Mir Ali on the 3rd May.

The Faqir of Ipi was still at Arsal Kot, while the main tribal forces were located between the Sham Plain and the Shaktu river. It was therefore decided to disperse them.

8. *The advance to the Shaktu Valley, 6th—30th May 1937.*—This advance began from Dosalli on the night 11/12th May, when the Bannu Brigade, assisted by Tochi Scouts, carried out a most successful night operation over the difficult Iblanke Pass, the 1st Infantry Brigade and aircraft co-operating by means of a converging movement by daylight. The tribesmen were surprised, and our troops established themselves on the Sham Plain.

By the 27th May the Faqir's headquarters at Arsal Kot were occupied, but the Faqir with a few followers evaded capture and fled to the Mahsud/Bhitanni border. Partly as a result of the land operations and partly due to proscription by air action which had been maintained since early in April, the resistance of the Tori Khel was broken and they sued for peace. On the 5th June Government announced interim terms to the Tori Khel. Certain restrictions which had been imposed on them were removed, and the " proscription " of certain areas was raised.

9. *Operations in South Waziristan, 4th June—6th July 1937.*—Although the Mahsuds as a tribe had not been hostile to Government, many individuals had taken part in hostilities and their country was used as a base for hostile gangs. It was therefore necessary to move troops into Mahsud territory in order to re-establish Government authority and restore normal conditions. Accordingly the Bannu Brigade advanced through Mahsud territory from the Shaktu valley to Sorarogha and thence to Razmak. This march, except for sniping at night, was unopposed.

A series of operations was then undertaken against hostile gangs south of Razmak, by the Bannu, Razmak and Wana Brigades, in co-operation with aircraft. Hostile gatherings were broken up and the situation in South Waziristan for the time being improved.

10. *The period from the 1st July—15th September 1937.*—Large scale operations having ceased a programme of road construction, as a measure of effecting the ultimate restoration of peaceful conditions, was undertaken. With this end in view four roads into the Shaktu valley were constructed ; from Dosalli in the north, the lower Khaisora Valley in the east, Ahmedwam (near Sorarogha) in the south, and Razmak in the west, all connecting in the neighbourhood of Ghariom. The total length of these roads is approximately 90 miles.

In the meantime the Faqir of Ipi, who had continually to move his headquarters owing to proscriptive air action, had moved into the Shawal area, west of Razmak, whence he continued to exhort the tribesmen to further hostilities. This necessitated certain minor operations in North and South Waziristan. At the end of September the Shawal area, after due warning, was also subjected to air proscription.

11. *Operations against the Bhitannis.* —In September it was decided to punish the Bhitannis who had been prominent in raiding into the administered districts of Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan during the summer of 1937 and allowing raiding gangs to pass through their country. Early in the month a large part of

Bhitanni country was proscribed for air action. This had a satisfactory effect on the attitude of the tribe, but it was decided not to announce terms to the Bhitannis until troops had visited their country and a motorable road had been constructed to Kot, their main village, in order to facilitate future control.

The land operations in Bhitanni country were carried out between the 12th and 22nd October. Little opposition, and that chiefly from outlaws and bad characters, was encountered and by the 18th November the tribe had made complete submission, by which time a motorable road had been constructed.

12. *Action in the Spinwam Area.*—Early in October the Faqir of Ipi moved to Madda Khel Wazir country, near the Indo-Afghan frontier whence he continued his anti-Government propaganda. This led to an increase in minor offences in North Waziristan culminating in the appearance of about 150 hostile tribesmen near Spinwam. They were engaged by the 9th Infantry Brigade, supported by aircraft and were dispersed.

13. *Events during November 1937.*—During November there were hopeful signs of a return to normal conditions. The scale and frequency of minor offences decreased and several hostile leaders made their peace with Government. The Faqir remained relatively inactive. Between the 16th and 18th November the 1st Infantry Brigade visited the lower Shaktu Valley. The troops were opposed by a gang of about 150 bad characters, belonging to a variety of tribal sections under a few notorious leaders, which was dispersed with little difficulty.

By the end of November Waziristan, generally, was quiet and the road construction programme had been completed. The return of troops additional to the permanent Waziristan garrison, to their peace stations was begun early in December. But, since normal conditions were not yet fully restored, the 3rd (Jhelum) Infantry Brigade and attached troops were retained in Waziristan, to supplement the garrison, for the time being.

14. *Events during January—March 1938.*—Although conditions had improved it was inevitable that after the excitement engendered by the events of the past year, some time must elapse before free movement would be possible on the roads under the sole protection of tribal khassadars, as in normal times. The Faqir of Ipi continued to encourage hostility to Government by inciting small gangs to commit offences on the roads. About the middle of January, at the instigation of the Faqir, a hostile gang, under one Gagu, a notorious leader, attacked Spinwam Post, employing a gun of tribal manufacture. The gang was driven off by troops from Mir Ali, with the co-operation of the Tochi Scouts and aircraft.

In February the Faqir began to increase his propaganda. Offences on the roads became more frequent, and there were indications that the attitude of certain of the younger Mahsud tribesmen was unsatisfactory.

While engaged on these anti-Government activities the Faqir remained in Madda Khel country, at first in hiding but later more openly, although the Madda Khel refused to acknowledge his presence. The tribe were accordingly warned, under threat of punishment, that they must either undertake to control

the Faqir, or expel him from their country within a specified period. Since they failed to obey these orders, punitive air action, after due warning, was undertaken against four Madda Khel villages, early in March. This had a salutory effect and the tribe was then informed that Government would take no further action against them provided they restrained the hostile activities of the Faqir whilst he was living in their area or under their influence.

Subsequent events proved that the Madda Khel had failed to comply with these conditions, as offences in Waziristan traceable to the instigation of the Faqir continued. It was apparent that more drastic steps would have to be taken to deal with the Faqir and to compel the Madda Khel either to evict or control him. Thus, at the end of March 1938, when this review closes, conditions in Waziristan still remained disturbed.

CHAPTER III.

ORGANIZATION.

15. *Reorganization of Commands, Formations, etc.*—No reorganization of commands or formations actually took place during the year under review ; but near the close of the year sanction was received for two reorganizations which it will be convenient to describe here.

(*a*) The Western Command, at present at Karachi, is to be abolished, and its place will be taken by a Western (Independent) District at Quetta, which will also absorb the present Baluchistan District. The troops in that area in peace will remain substantially unaltered in numbers but two infantry brigades and one artillery brigade will be transferred from the Field Army to the Covering Troops. The second division will be abolished.

Lucknow District will later take over two infantry and one artillery brigades with their training areas from Meerut District. Lucknow will become a 1st class District, while Meerut will become a 2nd class one. The abolition of the Second Division will release one infantry brigade which will be available as a reserve and certain other troops which are required to complete the Third and Fourth Divisions.

As these arrangements are bound up with other reorganizations it is not possible to assess the precise amount of the annual saving in expenditure which will accrue. It can be said, however, that this reorganization will result in a substantial annual saving and increased efficiency.

(*b*) In connection with the mechanization of two Indian cavalry regiments, (the 13th D. C. O. Lancers at Jullundur, and the 14th Scinde Horse at Rawalpindi), the Second Cavalry Brigade was abolished on 31st March 1938. Of the other units in this brigade the battery of Royal Horse Artillery has been returned to the United Kingdom leaving its equipment behind ; and the remaining units have been disbanded or reallotted to the other cavalry brigades which had not been previously complete in all respects.

16. *Progress with the mechanization of the Army*—In order to strengthen the offensive capacity of the cavalry arm, and keep in line with developments in the United Kingdom, it was decided to convert four British cavalry

regiments on the Indian establishment to Light Tank regiments. Accordingly the conversion of two regiments, one at Sialkot and the other at Meerut, was begun in December last. As conversion proceeds, the Light Tank Companies of the Royal Tank Corps on the Indian establishment will be disbanded and the fifth British cavalry regiment will be withdrawn from India. The light tanks held by the Royal Tank Corps Companies will be transferred to the cavalry light tank regiments. As the disbandment of the Royal Tank Coprs units in India would leave no armoured car units for convoy protection and other essential duties on the North West Frontier the conversion of the two Indian cavalry regiments, referred to in the previous paragraph, into armoured car regiments was started in April 1938.

As regards artillery units, one battery of Royal Horse Artillery in India was supplied with mechanical vehicles in January last; two field brigades are already on a mechanized basis, and it is proposed to mechanise others as funds become available.

The experiment of subsidizing civil transport for use of the Army in time of war was pursued and the raising of subsidized mechanical transport sections duly approved.

17. *Manoeuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938.*—Private land has hitherto been used for manœuvres, field firing and artillery practice by agreement between the military authorities and the local inhabitants, but under the Manœuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938, the areas to be used may be notified by Provincial Governments.

Compensation claims will be considered by a Revenue Officer accompanying the troops. Appeals from decisions by the Revenue Officer will be considered by a commission, constituted by the Collector of the district whose decision shall be final.

18. *Reserve of Officers.*—The following measures were introduced during 1937-38 in connection with the Army in India Reserve of Officers :—

(*a*) The Officer Designate Category was re-introduced, to complete the establishments authorised for the Cavalry, Engineers, Signals, and Infantry Categories of the Army in India Reserve of Officers.

(*b*) A change was made in the terms of service of future entrants to the A. I. R. O., whereby they are required to accept a liability to be called up to military service, in the event of the Government of India considering that a state of emergency has arisen, or is imminent.

Present members of the A. I. R. O. are unaffected by this change. Such officers, however, may accept this liability voluntarily.

19. *Indian Wing of the A. I. R. O.*—Recruitment to the various categories is progressing satisfactorily. Out of a total establishment of 346 officers for this Wing of the Reserve, there are only 60 vacancies to fill. It is anticipated that the majority of these vacancies will be filled in the near future.

20. *Recruiting.*—The recruitment of all personnel for the Indian Army is carried out by recruiting officers. These officers, with their assistant recruiting officers, are in charge of areas comprising groups of civil districts.

Recruiting offices are located in the following places :—

(1)	Peshawar.	(8)	Ajmer.	
(2)	Kohat.	(9)	Poona.	
(3)	Rawalpindi.	(10)	Bangalore.	
(4)	Lahore.	(11)	Lansdowne.	
(5)	Jullundur.	(12)	Gorakhpur	for Gurkhas from Nepal.
(6)	Delhi.			
(7)	Lucknow.	(13)	Ghoom.	

Each recruiting officer carries out several prolonged tours every year, and visits all places where suitable men are available. Paid recruiters are employed to assist in collecting a good muster of recruits for the recruiting officer's inspection. The recruiting officer asks District Soldier's Boards, civil officials and the Fauji Akhbar to give publicity to his tour programme.

21. *Indian Units Overseas.*—There are at present three battalions of Indian infantry stationed overseas, excluding Burma, the cost of which is borne by His Majesty's Government. At Hong Kong the Kumaon Rifles form part of the normal garrison. Events in China in the latter half of last year rendered it necessary to reinforce the garrison of that place in order to safeguard the interests of British and Indian subjects. The 5/6th Rajputana Rifles, an Indianized battalion from Secunderabad, was selected and embarked at Calcutta on the 24th August 1937. The 4/19th Hyderabad Regiment, another Indianized battalion, stood by at Secunderabad but was not called on to move. The 1st Bn., 2nd Punjab Regiment is serving at Taiping, Malay States, as a temporary measure. It has now been decided to withdraw this battalion which will return to India during the forthcoming cold weather and will not be replaced by a battalion from India.

22. *Separation of Burma.*—Consequent on the separation of Burma from India, the Burma Independent Military District ceased to be under the administrative control of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Army in Burma came into being on the 1st April, 1937. By this date the Indian garrison had been replaced by Burmese Forces and withdrawn, with the exception of one Field Company Sappers and Miners, one Mountain Battery and one Animal Transport Company (Mule) which have been loaned temporarily to the Government of Burma. It has been accepted that their cost, including non-effective charges in respect of their service in Burma after separation, will be borne by the Government of Burma.

The Government of India have further agreed to loan the services of officers and other ranks to the Government of Burma until such time as Burma can replace them from their own resources. The conditions of services of these personnel are under reference to the Secretary of State. The Government of Burma have agreed to bear the entire cost involved, including proportionate non-effective charges.

23. *Territorial Forces and University Training Corps.*—The following changes have taken place in the Indian Territorial Forces :—

(*a*) The 11th Bn., 19th Hyderabad Regiment (Bengal Wing) has been disbanded and a new unit (5th Bengal Presidency Urban Infantry) has been formed in its place.

(*b*) The detachment of the University Corps at the Engineering College, Guindy, has been converted from an infantry detachment to an engineer detachment.

CHAPTER IV.

INDIANIZATION.

24. *Policy.*—The accepted policy of Indianization of the Army entails the introduction of Indianized units to the equivalent of one division, one cavalry brigade and ancillary troops. This decision embraces all arms and branches of the service and is being effected by the Indianization of existing units, such as cavalry and infantry, and by the creation of new units where necessary, *e. g.* artillery.

Apart from the eventual replacement of British officers by Indian Commissioned Officers from Dehra Dun, the most important change necessitated by the process of Indianization is the eventual replacement in the units concerned of Viceroy's Commissioned Officers, by Indian Commissioned Officers on first appointment (*e. g.*, as platoon commanders in infantry battalions) and by Indian warrant officers.

25. *Progress.*—The normal output of the Indian Military Academy is approximately 56 every year. One hundred and eighty four cadets from Dehra Dun have so far received commissions and been posted to Indianized units as follows :—

Cavalry	11
Infantry	95
Artillery	3
Signals	1

In addition 55 are serving their first year's attachment with the British units and 19 are undergoing training prior to appointment to Artillery, Engineers and Signals.

An Indian Regiment of Artillery was constituted on 15th January 1935 by the formation of " A " Indian Field Brigade at Bangalore. The British Service officers are gradually being replaced as Indian Commissioned Officers become available.

Apart from the units which are being Indianized a number of Indian Commissioned Officers are being posted to services and departments and Viceroy's Commissioned Officers and warrant officers are replacing British other ranks wherever possible.

The conditions of service of Indian Commissioned Officers have now generally been settled and included in the relevant regulations.

26. *Entrance Examinations.*—There was again a reduction, as compared with the previous year, in the number of candidates presenting themselves for examination for entry into the Navy, Army and Air Force. At the interview and Record Board for entry held in October 1937, 20 candidates presented themselves for the Royal Indian Navy and 116 for the Indian Military Academy—a decrease of 8 from the figures for 1936. At a Board held in April 1938, 61 candidates competed for 15 Commissions in the Army, 3 in the Royal Indian Navy and 3 in the Indian Air Force. This figure is again less than the number presenting themselves in April, 1937, when 72 candidates took part.

The distribution of candidates by communities and provinces is given in Appendix II (pages 29-30). Extracts of general interest in the reports of the Board are given in Appendix III (pages 31-32).

27. *Indian Military Academy.*—During the year, cadets were admitted to the Indian Military Academy as follows :—

August 1937	15	by competitive examination,
	17	from the Indian Army, and
	8	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
Total	40	
January 1938	15	by competitive examination,
	15	from the Indian Army, and
	10	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
Total	40	

In the passing out examination held in June 1937, of 32 cadets all were successful, and at the examination held in December 1937, all the 35 cadets were successful.

28. *Intake of Indian Commissioned Officers.*—The results of the year's intake of Indian Commissioned Officers are shown in the following figures. Those of the previous year are added for purposes of comparison :—

	31st March 1937.	*31st March 1938.*
Number of Commissioned Officers in Indian Land Forces.	285	348

29. *Indian Army cadets.*—In the Summary published last year reference was made to the selection, with effect from the August 1938 term at the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, of Indian Army cadets from the candidates undergoing courses at the Kitchener College, Nowgong.

Of the 15 Indian Army cadets selected for admission to the Indian Military Academy in August 1938, 13 were taken from candidates at the Kitchener College and two from the Auxiliary Force (India). As regards their education, physical training and power of expression in English the 13 cadets selected from the Kitchener College were in advance of Indian Army cadets admitted under the previous system.

30. *New Measures.*—In the Summary published last year reference was also made to the conclusions of an informal conference of members of both Houses of the Legislature, regarding the measures to be taken to improve the quality of candidates for admission to the Indian Military Academy.

Arising out of the conference was :—

(*a*) the question of reducing the fees at the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun.

As a result of the quinquennial examination held in 1938, it was found that no reduction could be made in the fees now charged.

(*b*) a proposal to give additional emoluments in some form to young officers during their year's attachment to British units.

It was decided that with effect from the 1st September 1937, all 2nd lieutenant Indian Commissioned Officers will be granted financial assistance in the form of an allowance of Rs. 40 per mensem whilst serving in that rank.

With effect from the same date all lieutenant Indian Commissioned Officers during their first three years and nine months' service in that rank will be granted financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 15 per mensem.

In each case the allowance will be paid to the Officers' Mess and will be credited to the officer against his individual mess bill.

Both 2nd lieutenant and lieutenant Indian Commissioned Officers will be eligible for the allowance during privilege leave and whilst attending a course of instruction.

These allowances will continue only for so long as the conditions of service and pay of Indian Commissioned Officers remain as they are at present.

(*c*) the value of the diploma at the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun.

With effect from the examination for December 1938, the Cambridge School Certificate "A " will be substituted for the R. I. M. C. Diploma.

CHAPTER V.

Royal Indian Navy.

31. *Personnel.*—The present strength of the Royal Indian Navy consists of 130 officers and 1,118 ratings excluding boys under training.

On the 20th November, 1937, Rear-Admiral H. Fitzherbert, C. B., C. M. G., relieved Vice-Admiral A. E. F. Bedford, C. B., C. S. I., as Flag Officer Commanding, Royal Indian Navy.

For administrative reasons the cadre of officers was divided into two branches as from March 1937, namely :—

List I.—Seagoing officers.

List II.—Officers permanently seconded for employment under civil departments.

Proposals are under the consideration of the Government for an increase in the cadres of officers and men to meet existing commitments. All existing vacancies for commissioned officers have been filled and there has been no lack of volunteers for entry as ratings. There has been an increase in the number of boys under training in the Depot, and recruiting is now being carried out three times a year instead of twice. Recruiting was extended to the Deccan as an experiment and this District will be included with others in future.

32. *Strength—Craft.*—The following vessels comprise the Royal Indian Navy :—

Escort vessels—" Clive ", " Cornwallis ", " Hindustan ", " Indus " and " Lawrence ".

Survey ship—" Investigator ".

Depot ship—" Dalhousie " (Boys' Training Establishment).

Patrol vessel—" Pathan " (tender to Boys' Training Establishment).

Trawler—" Madras ".

33. *Local Naval Defence.*—The protection of coastal seaborne trade will to some extent be provided for, if the present scheme for expansion of the Royal Indian Navy is put into operation. It must, however, be realised that the Royal Indian Navy, as at present constituted, can only be considered as a local defence force. Against attacks on a large scale, and for the protection of shipping on the ocean trade routes, India must remain entirely dependant on the Royal Navy.

34. *Indianization.*—Since the re-organization of the service on a combatant basis in 1928, the ratio of British and Indian personnel recruited as commissioned officers has been fixed at 2 : 1, and that of warrant officers 50 : 50. All ratings are Indians. On the 1st of April 1938, there were 7 Indian officers in the Executive branch and 6 Indian officers in the Engineer branch, while there are 13 Indian cadets and midshipmen under training in the United Kingdom.

Two examinations were held in October 1937 for the admission of Indian cadets to the Royal Indian Navy, *viz.*, one special examination for cadets of the Indian Mercantile Marine Training Ship " Dufferin " and one open competitive examination. On the results of these examinations two cadets for the Executive branch from the " Dufferin ", and one for the Engineer branch from open examination, were selected.

A book describing the life in the Royal Indian Navy and how to join it has been placed in the Assembly Library* for the use of members.

35. *Remission of Admiralty Contribution.* His Majesty's Government have been pleased to remit, as from 1st April 1938, the sum of approximately £ 115,000 hitherto paid as contribution towards the expense of maintaining a squadron of His Majesty's Ships of the Royal Navy in Indian waters and certain escort vessels in the Persian Gulf. This amount is being used towards the expansion of the Royal Indian Navy and local naval defence measures.

36. *New Wireless Station at Bombay.*—In November 1937, the construction of a new Wireless Telegraph Station at Colaba (Bombay) was undertaken for the Royal Indian Navy. When completed, it will be the most up to date Naval Wireless Telegraph Station in the Far East with the exception of Singapore.

37. *Visit of " Indus " to United Kingdom.*—On 5th April 1937, " Indus " left Bombay for the United Kingdom to take part in the Coronation celebrations. She arrived at Portsmouth on 30th April and proceeded to the Thames on 3rd May where she remained until 14th May. During this visit to London the ship's company witnessed the Coronation Procession and Lieutenant Choudri, four Indian warrant officers and two ratings actually took part in the procession. Many distinguished visitors called on the ship and the reception given to the officers and men was excellent, their efficiency and bearing being remarked on by all.

After leaving London, " Indus " returned to Portsmouth for the Coronation Naval Review when the Commanding Officer (Commander A. R. Rattray) had the honour of being received on board H. M. Yacht " Victoria and Albert " by His Majesty the King Emperor.

On 11th June the ship sailed for exercises with the First Minesweeping Flotilla which provided valuable experience for both officers and men.

After taking part in Naval Week at Portsmouth, " Indus " sailed for Karachi on 9th August.

During the year under review, " Indus " steamed 26,012 miles, nearly three times as much as is usually done in a year.

38. *Exercises off Singapore.* At the end of January 1938, " Investigator ", " Indus " and " Hindustan " took part in exercises off Singapore with units of the China and East Indies Squadrons. Their participation was favourably

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* List of certain Defence Dept. publications in the Library is given in Appendix VI, page 33.

commented on by the Commanders-in-Chief of the China and East Indies Stations. On completion of the exercises they proceeded into Singapore where they were present for the opening of the new graving dock by H. E. the Governor of the Straits Settlements.

CHAPTER VI.

Air Forces.

(Royal Air Force and Indian Air Force.)

39. *Strength—personnel.*—The Royal Air Force in India consists of a Command Headquarters, a Group Headquarters at Peshawar, 2 Wing Stations consisting of 2 bomber squadrons each at Risalpur and Kohat, a Wing Headquarters with two Army co-operation squadrons under it -one at Chaklala and the other at Peshawar, 2 Army co-operation squadrons located at Ambala and Drigh Road respectively, an Aircraft Park at Lahore including a Bomber Transport Flight, and an Aircraft Depot at Drigh Road. Personnel consists of 249 British officers and 1,820 airmen with 668 Indian ranks. No. 1 Squadron of the Indian Air Force consisting of Squadron Headquarters and "B" Flight is located at Drigh Road and "A" Flight is located at Peshawar. The squadron as at present constituted consists of 12 officers (2 under training in England) and 100 airmen (33 *ex*-apprentices and 14 apprentices under training).

40. *Strength—Aircraft.*—The following is the strength of First Line aircraft by squadrons :—

	Type.
No. 5 (AC) Squadron, R. A. F. Chaklala ..	12
No. 11 (B) Squadron, R. A. F. Risalpur ..	12
No. 20 (AC) Squadron, R. A. F. Peshawar ..	12
No. 27 (B) Squadron, R. A. F. Kohat ..	12
No. 28 (AC) Squadron, R. A. F. Ambala ..	12
No. 31 (AC) Squadron, R. A. F. Karachi ..	12
No. 39 (B) Squadron, R. A. F. Risalpur ..	12
No. 60 (B) Squadron, R. A. F. Kohat ..	12
B. T. Flight	2
No. I Squadron, I. A. F.	8

making a total strength of 106 aircraft *plus* reserves.

41. *Operational and Training Flights.*—In addition to taking part in the operations in Waziristan, the Air Forces in India carried out the following long distance flights during the period under review :—

Between 5th and 7th June 1937, Herr Dr. Bauer and party were flown to Gilgit in a Bomber Transport aircraft in connection with the German Nanga Parbat relief expedition.

Between 1st and 2nd November 1937, four Wapiti aircraft carried out the annual flight to Gilgit. The Governor of Kuh Khizar and his son were carried in these aircraft from Gilgit to Peshawar on their return flight.

During January-February 1938, No. 39 (Bomber) Squadron (12 Hart) and No. 60 (Bomber) Squadron (12 Wapiti) together with a Bomber Transport aircraft flew to Singapore and back for the purpose of training the units in long distance navigation and for participation in the Singapore combined exercise.

On 2nd-3rd March 1938, two Hart aircraft carried out an emergency flight from Risalpur to Gilgit carrying anti-rabic vaccine.

The following flights were made to or across India by the Royal Air Force of other Commands :—

In August 1937, one Singapore III flying boat flew across India *en-route* Singapore.

In December 1937, five London type flying boats of No. 204 (GR) Squadron flew across India *en-route* Australia for Sydney Centenary.

During January-February 1938, No. 84 (Bomber) Squadron (12 Vincent) accompanied by Bomber Transport aircraft and No. 203 (GR) Squadron (4 Singapore III flying boats) of the Iraq Command flew across India *en-route* to, and from Singapore.

42. *Indian Air Force.*—The formation of the 2nd flight of the Indian Air Force Squadron has now been completed and the 3rd flight will commence formation on 1st April 1938. It is intended to move the Squadron to Ambala during the forthcoming year.

As difficulty has been experienced in recruiting other ranks, rates of pay and allowances have been revised, leave concessions have been improved and a married establishment has been introduced for other ranks.

The flight of the Indian Air Force Squadron stationed at Peshawar was employed at Miranshah during the Waziristan operations of 1937. This is the first time in the history of the Indian Air Force that they have been called upon to undertake active operations.

43. *Equipment.*—No new type of aircraft or major items of equipment were purchased during the year under review.

CHAPTER VII.

Supply and Administration.

44. *Supply Measures.* The provision of supplies for the Defence Services during the year under review have been satisfactory. Supplies of ghee, in which some interest has been shown, are eminently satisfactory both from the point of view of quality and price.

45. *Remounts.* In anticipation of the mechanization of certain horsed units it has been decided not to purchase horses from Australia during the year 1938-39. Owing to this cessation, it has been found possible to reduce the Remount Depot at Calcutta.

The Government of India have sanctioned a scheme for the conversion of 50 per cent. of the overseers of the Army Remount Department from British to Indian.

46. *Abattoir Scheme—Liquidation.*—Owing to the spread of agitation against the proposal on religious grounds, the Government decided to abandon the scheme for a Central Abattoir at Lahore Cantonment and connected cold storage facilities. A liquidation committee has been appointed to deal with all contractors' claims arising from the abandonment of the scheme. The buildings erected and materials collected have been disposed of, and the claims of various contractors and sub-contractors in England and India and of the consulting architect have been settled. The final winding-up of the scheme is not yet complete but the loss entailed is estimated to be not less than Rs. 20 lakhs.

47. *Mechanical Transport* (*a*).—The experimental scheme for the subsidization, against a guarantee of availability in war, of civilian mechanical transport sections, each of 30 lorries, was continued with minor modifications in the terms of the contract. It is proposed to subsidize more sections during 1938-39.

Owing to the improved performance of four-wheeled vehicles, the policy of replacing six-wheeled by four-wheeled lorries has been with a few exceptions accepted, thus effecting considerable savings.

48. *Accommodation—Officers.*—The situation throughout India regarding housing of officers is a matter of grave concern. It is becoming increasingly difficult to rent houses in cantonments owing to the fact that reasonable repairs, are, in many instances, not carried out by landlords. A small programme of acquisition in certain cantonments has been drawn up but owing to lack of funds, a satisfactory solution seems far off. In the few cantonments where it has been possible to carry out this programme, there has been a distinct improvement in the situation.

49. *Accommodation—Indian troops.*—The lines of many Indian units are old and below modern hygienic standards. A programme of reconstruction and improvements has been drawn up. This again is held up owing to shortage of funds.

50. *Electrification.*—The provision of electric light (and fans where necessary) in plain stations has now been authorized for all training and educational establishments, also for all schools in the lines for Indian troops. It is proposed to electrify the lines of Indian troops in plain stations where an electric plant exists. This work must, however, be undertaken gradually as and when funds become available.

51. *Ordnance.*—During the year under review, the attention of the ordnance authorities has been concentrated in stimulating the production in India of various articles of war stores required by defence forces. Extensions of plant have been made which enable the new light automatic gun (Vickers Berthier) to be produced in the Rifle Factory at Ishapore. A 3-inch anti-aircraft gun has been completed at the Gun and Shell Factory, Cossipore. This is the first gun of its type to be manufactured in India. Steps have been taken to establish the complete manufacture in India of respirators required for anti-gas purposes. As the result of endeavours made by the Central Purchase

Organization of the Defence Services, indigenous manufacture of the undernoted stores, previously obtained from abroad, has been developed :—

Ground sheets.

Cells and batteries.

Cutlery.

Hurricane lamps.

Horse shoes.

Barbed wire.

52. *Indian Army Veterinary Corps.*—Fifteen Indian gentlemen have been granted commissions in the Indian Army Veterinary Corps, including one on probation and yet to be confirmed. The establishment for 1937-38 is sixteen.

As noted last year there is a shortage of candidates which, however, appears likely to be rectified in the course of the next few years owing to the increased number of Indian gentlemen now studying for their M. R. C. V. S. diploma.

53. *Army Remount Department.*—The Government of India have sanctioned a scheme for the Indianization up to 50% of British overseers of the Army Remount Department.

54. *Military Farms Department.*—The steady progress towards the Indianization of half the cadre of Farm Managers and Assistant Managers in the Grass Farms has been maintained.

Six Indian Managers and Assistant Managers have been appointed during 1937-38.

55. *Military Veterinary Laboratory—Lahore Cantonment.*—The Military Veterinary Laboratory established in 1936 is now in full working order. In close touch with the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar, it is proving of the utmost value in investigating outbreaks of contagious disease and in research work concerning strangles and sterility. In addition, it acts as a central station for the collection and dissemination of veterinary knowledge from all over the world.

56. *Quetta Reconstruction.*—Considerable progress was made on construction of the buildings included in the first and second instalments of the rebuilding programme. Work at Shelabagh has been completed.

Contracts for Staff College Mess and Officers' Hotel were accepted in March 1938 and work will be put in hand shortly.

57. *Cantonments.*—As a result of the passage of the Cantonments (Amendment) Act, 1936 (XXIV) the Cantonments Department was re-organised during 1937. The main feature of the re-organization is the constitution of a separate Lands Branch of the Department and a Service of Cantonment Executive Officers.

The Lands Branch consists of Military Estates Officers whose primary duty is to manage military lands in and out of cantonments on more efficient lines, the necessity for such management having been felt for the past several years.

The rules for the Service of Cantonment Executive Officers, which was constituted for the municipal administration of cantonments, were published in the Gazette of India on the 8th May 1937. They provide for the recruitment of Executive Officers through the Federal Public Service Commission which method will automatically result in the complete Indianization of the Service.

The Cantonments Act was withdrawn from Dharamsala, and Cannanore was constituted as a cantonment, with effect from the 4th October 1937 and 1st January 1938, respectively.

CHAPTER VIII.

Health and Medical Services.

(i) *Health of the Army in India.*

58. *General.*—1937 has been from the health aspect a good year for both British and Indian troops. There was a reduction in hospital admissions among both groups as compared with 1936 (also a good year), of 10·45 per 1,000 of strength among British troops, and 22·66 per 1,000 of strength among Indian troops. The admission ratio appears generally to be on the downward trend and although an improvement on that of previous decades (in 1920 it was 1071·5 per 1,000 for British troops and 762·3 per 1,000 among Indian troops), cannot be considered satisfactory according to modern health standards as long as approximately 560 out of every 1,000 British soldiers and 390 out of every 1,000 Indian soldiers are admitted to hospital during the course of a year. When compared with the admission ratio to hospital among the troops in the United Kingdom the ratio in India is found to be almost exactly double. The reasons are partly due to the climate and partly due to the more primitive methods of sanitation, particularly with regard to conservancy, available not only for the army, but the civil populations in contact with them. Education, finance and time are the three main factors concerned, given the will to gradually progress up to modern standards. It is satisfactory to record in addition to the drop in hospital admissions a reduction in the average constantly sick, death and invaliding rates.

An encouraging feature during the past few years and particularly during 1936 has been the reduction in incidence of such diseases as malaria and the enteric group of fevers.

59. *Malaria.* The hospital admission ratio per 1,000 among British troops has fallen steadily from 103·3 in 1933 to 44·5 in 1937. Even after allowing for the fact that the weather conditions in 1937 were favourable to a lower malaria incidence there is no doubt that the steady annual anti-malaria work in military stations is beginning to show permanent results, and to this must be added the good results obtained with the modern synthetic drugs now used in the treatment of malaria particularly plasmoquine, which

has a powerful anti-relapse factor, and also has the important property of rendering the malaria patients' blood in the so-called malignant type of malaria non-infective to the mosquito. The result has been a great reduction in relapses from malaria during past years, and fewer infected mosquitœs in barracks to carry on the disease. There has also been a reduction among Indian troops, who receive the same treatment as British troops.

The ratio for admissions among Indian troops in 1937 is 90·18 as compared with 212·2 in 1933.

The higher incidence among Indian troops than British is due to certa in factors which are difficult to control, *e.g.*, many recruits arrive at their depots from villages already infected with malaria and relapse later. A large percentage also receive their infections when passing through malarial areas on their way to their homes, or actually in their villages during the furlough season, and relapse later on return to their regiments. Another factor may be the partial immunity to malaria which undoubtedly has gradually been acquired during childhood and adolescence by the Indian villager in certain areas, with the result that although carrying parasites in their blood and capable of infecting mosquitœs they may for long periods carry out their duties without sufficient discomfort to cause them to report sick. The mosquito population however picks up the infection and passes it on.

During 1937 a commencement has been made towards a more intimate co-operation with the civil authorities in the same areas as military stations. In many, combined committees with civil and military health representatives meet and discuss their local problems regularly not only from the malaria, but from the general sanitary point of view with a view to general improvement. The importance for the future of such friendly co-operation cannot be too strongly emphasised and it is hoped will increase as time goes on. Piecemeal anti-malaria prevention, or other health measures applied to only a portion of a population can never lead to satisfactory results.

While on the subject of malaria it may be of interest to observe that as the results of special measures taken in the way of personal prophylaxis during the Waziristan operations the malaria incidence was reduced to 128·8 per 1,000 for British troops and 99·8 per 1,000 for Indian troops, the lowest recorded.

The measures taken were the issue of an anti-mosquito cream in lieu of the oil, which has been in use for many years. This cream was issued in a suitable container which was carried by the sepoy when on column or picket and sentry duty. It was found to be so successful in preventing both mosquito and sandfly fever bites that it has now replaced the oil for peace time purposes.

In addition a number of a new type of mosquito net, suitable for bivouacs or for fitting into small tents, was issued as an experimental measure and these also were found to be most satisfactory, and their introduction both for troops engaged in field operations for peace time training on manœuvres is now under consideration. Each field ambulance was also supplied with a field diagnosis outfit containing the necessaries for blood examination, thus enabling

cases to be diagnosed promptly and treatment commenced at once, in the field unit. The prevention of malaria in peace time is obviously important, but its prevention and satisfactory treatment in war time in highly malarial areas becomes a vital necessity if the force is to be maintained in the field.

60. *Enteric group of fevers.*—The great decline in this group of diseases which was, not so many years ago, a scourge in the army has been particularly gratifying, and can mainly be attributed to the improved vaccine with which the British troops have been inoculated in the U. K. prior to their embarkation to India, and also to the vaccine now issued by the Central Research Institute at Kasauli. The incidence in 1937 for both British and Indian troops more than halved itself between 1934 and 1937. The ratio per 1,000 of admissions in 1937 was 0·8 per 1,000 only among British troops and 0·9 per 1,000 among Indian troops. The results are particularly striking, in that among the civil population in close contact with the troops in many areas, such as around Rawalpindi, there were some severe typhoid epidemics among the local population and they indicate the great reduction there would be in this disease in India could inoculation be more generally practiced among the mass of the population.

61. *Typhus group of fevers.*—The existence of the presence of endemic typhus fever, mainly in a mild form and similar to that found in the Malay States, is a comparatively recent discovery, and that it must be widely distributed throughout India has been proved by the work in the military laboratories in connection with its diagnosis.

In 1936, forty four cases were diagnosed among the British troops, and forty seven among Indian troops.

In 1937 there were 29 cases among British troops, and 43 among Indian troops.

The more severe form appears to break out annually in the autumn particularly in the Simla Hill areas.

62. *Sandfly fever.*—Still remains one of the most important causes of hospital admissions among both British and Indian troops and families, particularly in Northern Command. One thousand, one hundred and sixty seven cases among British troops were admitted to hospital from this disease in 1937, a reduction of 591 cases compared with 1936. There were 571 cases admitted among Indian troops a reduction also of 665 as compared with 1936. Until adequate drainage is available, and mud walls of houses in a bad state of repair are removed from bazaar areas near the troops lines there is little hope of preventing this disease. It is hoped however that the new anti-mosquito cream may be also a useful preventive against sandfly bites.

63. *Dengue.*—A disease carried by the aedes mosquito, unfortunately showed an increase in 1937, the main incidence being in Eastern Command particularly Calcutta where there were 431 admissions (British) out of a total of 576 for all-India. There were 393 admissions among Indian troops in Eastern Command, out of a total of 571 for all-India.

64. *Dysentery.*—In contrast to the progress made in most respects in the reduction of disease in the Army, dysentery almost alone has not been reduced in annual incidence. There were 1,209 admissions among British troops and 1,183 among Indian troops in 1937 and the usual numbers of cases among the families. It has been proved for several years that approximately 80% of this number are bacillary infections and that in by far the greater number of cases infection is fly borne from the cantonment bazaar. Unlike the enteric fevers, there is no protective inoculation available and in spite of active anti-fly precautions in barrack areas, infections occur annually to much the same high figure. Rigid control of bazaar sanitation and disposal of the excreta of the population underground by means of water-borne sewage, or bore hole latrines where this is feasible are the only remedies, and it is feared many years must pass before this satisfactory state of affairs can be achieved.

65. *Cholera.*—There was one case among British and two cases among Indian troops during 1937.

In fact cholera to all intents and purposes has disappeared except in sporadic form in the Army in India. It is considered that this is due to the high standard of sanitation now found among both British and Indian troops and particularly to the satisfactory chlorination of water supplies.

66. *Operations in Waziristan.*—The satisfactory results with regard to malaria as compared with previous campaigns has already been mentioned. The total sick rate was also greatly lowered as compared with previous campaigns, *e.g.*, taking August to mid-November (the most unhealthy period).

	Ratio per 1,000 admissions per day.	
	British.	Indian.
Waziristan 1937	4·49	2·61
Mohmand 1935	7·8	3·16
Mohmand-Bajaur 1933	16·85	5·9

For the first time evacuation of urgent cases from the field area to base hospitals was carried out by air for selected severe cases. In all 8 British officers, 29 British other ranks and 64 Indian other ranks were evacuated by air.

Hospital treatment was therefore available in 1½ hours from the time they left Bannu instead of about 9 hours, had they been evacuated by train.

Improvements to the high temperature inside motor ambulances in the hot weather was made available by covering cars with khus khus screens kept wet, and certain modifications to the wind screens. The temperature was by these means reduced between 5 and 15 degrees.

The equipment of Field Hygiene sections was greatly improved and much of the reduction in sickness during the operations was due to the useful work these units performed in connection with the sanitation of camps, etc.

(ii) Medical Services.

67. *Enhanced pension for certain officers of the Indian Medical Service.*—The Government of India Resolution No. 205, dated the 25th March 1937, regarding the reorganisation of the Indian Medical Service, announced amongst other matters the provision of a certain number of enhanced pensions for certain officers of the Indian Medical Service. The reasons for this were to give officers of the Indian Medical Service in military employ a greater measure of equality with officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps serving in India as regards the number of colonels' appointments held respectively by each service and to compensate lieutenant-colonels of the Indian Medical Service in civil employ for their loss of promotion above that rank.

The present establishment of these enhanced pensions has been fixed at seven, and six non-administrative colonels in military employ and five lieutenant-colonels in civil employ on the Special Selected List are eligible to compete for them. These eleven officers form a joint pool and rank in it according to their seniority in the service. Those who are not selected for administrative appointments but are amongst the first 7 in the pool on the date of their retirement (the age limit for both categories of officers being 57) will be eligible for enhanced pensions. Those, however, who reach the age of 57 and are not within the first 7 will be retired and will not be eligible for enhanced pensions.

68. *The commissioned cadre of the Indian Medical Department.*—During the year under review the commissioned cadre of the Assistant Surgeon Branch of the Indian Medical Department has been increased from 10% to 13·5% of the combined military and civil cadre. The latter at present numbers 498 which allows the grant of 67 commissions at any one time. Majors and Captains will form 36% of the commissioned cadre and Lieutenants 64%.

(iii) Anthrax in Waziristan.

69. *Veterinary.*—A serious outbreak occurred at Ali Khel camp on October 13th, 1937, during the Waziristan operations. The figures are as follows :—

Total admissions include fever cases isolated as suspicious	35
Died	19
Discharged	16

This outbreak which lasted for 18 days, was unusually difficult to control owing to the limited space available in the perimeter camp and the fact that convoys to Ali Khel only ran once or twice a week.

Although diagnosis of the first case was confirmed microscopically anthrax bacilli could not be demonstrated in blood smears from the next three, and five latter, fatal cases. Laboratory tests, however, consisting of surface cultures on agar and guinea pig inoculations proved the nature of the disease

beyond all doubt. The source of infection was traced to a consignment of green fodder issued on October 12th and 13th, which may have become infected on the ground at Ali Khel or in civilian lorries in which it was transported which may have been used to convey hides of sheep and goats. All issues of the fodder were stopped immediately. Anti-anthrax serum, in two doses at an interval of 14 days, was employed to confer passive immunity on animals of the affected battery.

The serious nature of the outbreak is indicated by the fact that in this confined space there were some 1,100 horses and mules.

Had expert control not been available not only would many more animals have died but a comparatively large garrison would have been rendered immobile for a considerable period owing to confinement to camp in isolation.

CHAPTER IX.

Welfare—Serving and Ex-Soldiers.

70. *Welfare—General.*—While the welfare of serving soldiers and their families is left to, to a great extent in the hands of commanding officers ; the interests of the pensioner and *ex*-soldier are watched by the Indian Soldiers' Board and its local committees.

A brief description of the work carried out in the year 1937-38 is as follows :—

71. *Indian Army Child Welfare.*—This most valuable movement has made great strides during the past few years and in practically every station where Indian troops are located a centre or centres, have been established. Officers of Indian units and particularly their wives have entered into this work with interest and enthusiasm. The Indian officers and sepoys contribute willingly, and the maintenance is carried out by the money received from this source added to subscriptions obtained from various sources in the garrison, grants from Red Cross, Indian expeditionary force, Canteen profits fund, and from H. E. the C.-in-C. Nurses and lady sub-assistant surgeons (12 of the latter are provided by the Defence Department) are maintained by many units, who inspect married quarters in the lines, see the sick among the families, and give instruction in home hygiene and child welfare to the women. As an example of the magnitude to which this work has obtained, excluding 7 centres whose records were not well kept and are therefore excluded, 71,576 women and 75,194 children were treated as outpatients during 1937 at welfare centres. Two thousand, two hundred and one confinements were conducted by either the nurse or lady sub-assistant surgeon.

In one or two stations in-patients are received when facilities exist, and during the year 3,290 women and 3,085 children were treated as in-patients in centres.

A table giving the numbers of the more important diseases treated during 1937 is placed below.

—	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Enteric fever.	Enteritis and diarrhoea.	Other digestive diseases.	Tuberculosis.	Pneumonia.
Women	5,916	823	67	2,483	13,121	544	273
Children	4,985	1,264	72	7,317	8,188	255	757
Total ..	10,901	2,087	139	9,800	21,309	799	1,030

—	Other respiratory diseases.	Diseases of the eyes.	Parturition.	Effects of parturition.	Generative system.	Minor septic diseases.	Total all causes.
Women	8,337	6,548	2,098	2,635	6,352	2,331	74,866
Children	13,808	11,019	103	8	338	4,205	78,279
Total ..	22,145	17,567	2,201	2,643	6,690	6,536	1,53,145

Apart from the present benefit to the Indian families of this movement, it is considered to be of the greatest educational value for the future, and it is hoped that when the married sepoy and his wife eventually leave the army they will remember what they have been taught, and act as a nucleus for spreading the gospel of home hygiene and child welfare in their own villages.

72. *Rural Reconstruction.*—(*Serving soldiers*).—The inclusion of rural reconstruction as a subject in the educational training of the Indian Army has resulted in all units taking a deep interest in the subject and it can definitely be claimed that the serving soldier has a fair theoretical knowledge of what can and should be done to improve the standards of health and sanitation in his village. The application of the scheme, as originally envisaged, *in toto*, has been found impracticable, owing to the different conditions obtaining in various provinces. In general, however, it can be claimed that the campaign is progressing satisfactorily. Many local committees have been formed and demonstrations and lectures have been given. Encouraging reports have been received which indicate that in some areas the efforts of retired soldiers are appreciated and that endeavours are being made to try out the methods they advocate. Various suggestions have been received, and are being considered, with a view to enlarging and improving the scheme.

73. *Indian Soldiers' Board.*—The Indian Soldiers' Board, together with its organization of Provincial, State and District Soldiers' Boards, exists to safeguard the interests of the Indian *ex*-soldier and his family, to look after their needs and to assist as far as they can from the funds at their disposal those of them who are in distressed circumstances.

Details of the funds controlled by the Indian Soldiers' Board are to be found in the Board's Annual Report, copies of which are in the Library.

74. *Maintenance Grant for Soldiers' Board Organizations.*—During the financial year 1937-38 the Indian Soldiers' Board made a grant of over Rs. 55,000 from the Indian Soldiers' Board Fund to the various Provincial, State and District Soldiers' Boards subordinate to them. District Soldiers' Boards spent this money in the maintenance of their organizations and in looking after all matters affecting the home interests of *ex*-soldiers and their families. These include the initial examination of pension and medal claims, applications for the grant of scholarships, the distribution of medals, the investigation of cases of relief from charitable funds, the explanation of what educational concessions are available for ex-soldiers and the promotion of vocational training and rural reconstruction schemes. Besides the sum mentioned above, these Boards also obtain assistance from the Indian Red Cross Society's Funds for *ex*-soldiers invalided out of the Indian Army for chronic diseases.

In most cases the President of a District Soldiers' Board is the Deputy Commissioner or District Magistrate and its Vice-President a Military officer provided usually from an Indian Infantry Training Battalion or Territorial Battalion. Its Secretary, either paid or unpaid, is normally a retired Viceroy's commissioned officer. Funds are available for military vice-presidents, secretaries and members of Boards to tour their districts on Soldiers' Board business.

75. *Grants of Relief.*—One of the most important functions of the Indian Soldiers' Board is to afford relief from the funds at their disposal to Indian *ex*-soldiers or their dependants who are in distressed circumstances. During the year 1937-38 the Board sanctioned grants totalling about Rs. 52,000 in 874 cases from the Indian Army Benevolent Fund and Rs. 19,000 to 210 applicants from the India and Burma Military and Marine Relief Fund. Loans or grants amounting in all to Rs. 1,500 were also made in 10 cases from the Sir Victor Sassoon Fund.

The Board also pays a special pension of Rs. 5 a month in addition to their service pensions to Indian soldiers who lost their sight while on active service during the war. Funds for this purpose come from the balance of the St. Dunstan's Fund which was raised during the war and handed over to the Board after its close.

76. *Employment for ex-soldiers.*—Between the years 1922 and 1937 employment was found under Government alone for nearly 79,000 *ex*-soldiers. During the year 1937-38 employment was found for about 3,800 *ex*-soldiers in official and non-official appointments. This figure is not complete as at the time of going to press a number of District Soldiers' Boards had not sent in their figures for the year. Various District Soldiers' Boards and Recruiting Officers maintain lists of reliable ex-soldiers desirous of employment in their own districts.

77. *Rural Reconstruction* (ex-*soldiers*).—During the past year the Board decided to allot a sum of Rs. 10,000 a year for three years for promoting schemes of rural reconstruction in selected villages. The intention is that the inhabitants of a selected village shall decide upon a scheme of benefit to them, and provided they agree to meet half its cost either in money, kind or labour, the remaining half of the cost will be met from the Board's grant. Examples of the types of schemes which are now being worked out in districts of the Punjab are the provision of wireless sets, primary schools, wells, canals, irrigation and street paving, the training and maintenance of *dais* and improvements in village-hygiene.

78. *Vocational Training.*—The Board has made a number of efforts to promote vocational training for *ex*-soldiers after their discharge. Up to now they have not met with much success as *ex*-soldiers on the whole seem reluctant to undergo such courses even when the costs of training and of railway expenses to and from their homes to the place of instruction are met by the Indian Soldiers' Board. Further efforts are now being made to discover alternative methods of vocational and agricultural training in the Punjab and the United Provinces.

79. *Reunions.*—Armistice Day Reunions of Indian *ex*-servicemen were held on the 11th of November 1937 at Peshawar, Kohat, Lahore, Ferozepore, Karachi, Delhi, Lucknow, Fatehgarh, Bangalore, Poona, Bombay, Secunderabad, Aurangabad and at a number of other District Soldiers' Board centres. In all over 10,000 *ex*-soldiers attended these reunions. They included a parade at which His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's message to ex-soldiers was read out, the observance of the two minutes silence, the march past of *ex*-soldiers, an entertainment and a meal. At many of the reunions, the civil authorities, police and boy scouts all took part in the proceedings and at the parades in Lahore and Peshawar the salute was taken by Their Excellencies the Governors of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province respectively. A feature of some of the reunions was the attendance of the women and children of *ex*-soldiers who in some cases took part in the ceremonial. It is hoped to continue and perhaps extend these reunions on the occasion of the next Armistice Day.

80. *General.*—On the whole the year 1937-38 was a successful one. This was due largely to the increased efficiency in District Soldiers' Board work brought about by the reorganization of District Soldiers' Boards in 1936. The reorganization took the form of a change in the personnel of military vice-presidents (making one unit responsible for not more than two or three Boards instead of as in the past one Recruiting Officer being responsible for most of the Boards in his recruiting area), secretaries being appointed to Boards where none existed before, improved office staff and accommodation and the allotment of funds for military vice-presidents, secretaries and members of District Soldiers' Boards to tour their districts on District Soldiers' Boards business. A number of Boards, particularly in the United Provinces and Bombay, and also the Punjab, which had been inactive for some time have improved beyond recognition. Local tehsil or taluqa sub-committees of the Boards have been started or reconstituted in many districts. In Madras too where District Soldiers' Boards were abolished some years ago, a new Board was constituted at Vizagapatam.

CHAPTER X.

Appendices.

APPENDIX I.—Communities and provinces of candidates for entry to the Indian Military Academy who presented themselves before the Interview and Record Boards in 1937-38.

APPENDIX II.—*Indianization.* Extracts from the proceedings of the Interview and Record Boards during 1937-38. October/November 1937 and March/April 1938.

APPENDIX III.—List of more important publications in the Library of the Assembly giving detailed information on defence matters.

APPENDIX I [See paragraph 26.]

INDIANIZATION.

Communities and provinces of candidates for entry to the Indian Military Academy who presented themselves before the Interview and Record Boards in 1937-38.

(a) Candidates by communities.			October/November 1937.		March/April 1938.	
Hindus	Brahmins	18	64	Brahmins	5	33
	Kshatriyas	19		Kshatriyas	18	
	Kayasthas	9		Kayasthas	4	
	Vaishyas	9		Vaishyas	1	
	Non-Brahmins	9		Non-Brahmins	5	
Muslims			17			13
Sikhs			26			9
Parsis			*Nil*			3
Anglo-Indians			3			1
Domiciled European			1			1
Indian Christians			2			3
No religion			1			*Nil*
			114			63

(b) Candidates by Provinces and States.	October/November 1937.	March/April 1938.
Provinces.		
Punjab	36	23
Madras	4	1
N. W. F. P.	7	2
U. P.	22	9
Bengal	8	6
Bombay	8	7
Burma	3	1
C. P.	4	2
Bihar	3	1
Sind	1	*Nil*
Delhi	2	1
Orissa	*Nil*	1
Coorg	2	*Nil*

(c) Candidates by Provinces and States.	October/November 1937.		March/April 1937.	
Indian States.				
Kashmir	3		1	
Patiala	*Nil*		1	
Kotah	*Nil*		1	
Hyderabad	1		*Nil*	
Baroda	*Nil*		1	
Jaipur	*Nil*		1	
Punjab States	2		*Nil*	
Madras States	1		*Nil*	
Kolhapur	2	14	*Nil*	9
Dhar	*Nil*		1	
Kathiawar	1		*Nil*	
Cooch Behar	*Nil*		1	
Bhopal	1		*Nil*	
Indore	*Nil*		1	
Mysore	2		1	
Gwalior	1		*Nil*	
Total ..	114		63	

APPENDIX II [See paragraph 26.]

INDIANIZATION.

Extracts from the proceedings of the Interview and Record Boards during 1937-38.

(a) OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1937.

Army candidates.

The Board again desire to draw the attention of all candidates to the desirability of taking advice as to their prospects of success before appearing for the examination. In the few educational institutions where "career bureaux" exist candidates would be well advised to take the advice of such bureaux. In the majority of cases, however, where no such facilities exist, candidates would be well advised to call on the Brigadier commanding the Brigade area in which the candidate resides and ask his advice. The Board believe that if candidates would adopt this procedure and would be guided by the advice which they receive, much disappointment might be avoided and much time of future interview boards and candidates saved. Candidates who desire to enter for the Indian Military Academy examination should be encouraged to present themselves for a preliminary scrutiny by officers commanding brigades. It should be made clear that such an interview would be entirely informal and that officers commanding brigades would not be required to make any report to the examining authorities. Though it is to be hoped that candidates who might so appear would accept the advice given them, there would be no obligation on their part to do so.

The Board observed that a large number of candidates were handicapped by a lack of continuity in their school education. Many students had flitted from school to school. This was no doubt mainly due, in the case of sons of Government servants, to the transfers of their parents from one station to another. On the other hand, there were many cases where no *prima facie* satisfactory reason was forthcoming. Boys appeared to have changed from one institution to another in the hopes that some new teaching might enable them to secure a few more marks in their examination. It was noticeable that such candidates did not as a rule secure high marks in the interview and the Board have little doubt that in their anxiety to acquire some extra amount of learning and thereby win a few extra marks in the examination, these candidates have sacrificed the development of the more essential qualities of personality and character.

Once more the record of very many candidates as supplied by their educational institutions left much to be desired. A few heads of institutions record admirable appreciations of the character and qualities of the candidates whom they send up, which are of the greatest assistance to the Board. The great majority, on the other hand, however, unfortunately still supply reports which are so vague and colourless as to be almost valueless. The Board again wish to emphasize how much assistance they can derive from critical observations by heads of educational institutions, who have had the opportunity, both in and out of school, during a considerable period of the candidates' education of judging their character and development.

(c) MARCH/APRIL 1938.

Army candidates.

Of those who gave the Indian Air Force as their second preference there were many who had entered their names merely in the hope of drawing a prize in a lottery. They had no knowledge or interest in anything to do with the Air Force and for the greater part were disqualified at once as unsuitable. A large number of candidates while professing themselves quite ready to encounter the risks of army life openly stated that they were deterred by the prospects of the dangers of the air, and the Board cannot believe that for this new service, for which the very best type of recruit is required, anything like the best material is forthcoming. The Board think that it is urgent that steps should be taken as early as possible to have some instruction on what life in the Air Force means imparted in schools and colleges, so that, if possible, the youth of the country may be

induced to become more air-minded. The Air Force representative on the board was doubtful even whether several of the candidates who obtained a qualifying mark would ultimately prove themselves fit to undergo the rigorous training involved at Cranwell or would develop the personality likely to make good leaders. It is obvious, however, that a far greater number of suitable candidates should be forthcoming and that no candidate who is not really interested in an aviation career should be encouraged to enter his name at all.

The Board have little comment to make regarding the I. M. A. candidates, which has not been stated in previous reports. It is amazing how large a percentage of the candidates are still entirely ignorant even of the most elementary knowledge of the profession which they wish to adopt as their life career. Very few, except those who had done their schooling at some of the military schools and indeed quite a proportion even of these, had any knowledge of the organisation of an infantry battalion. The majority were completely ignorant of the functions of the Royal Engineers and of the Royal Artillery or Royal Signals.

The Board consider that propaganda in schools and colleges is necessary in order to popularise all the Defence Services and should be instituted without delay.

APPENDIX III.

List of the more important publications in the Library of the Assembly giving detailed information on Defence matters.

1. Indian Army List.
2. Navy List and Royal Indian Navy List.
3. Budget Estimates, Defence Services, 1937-38.
4. Summary of Progress of Indianization, 1938.
5. Annual Report of the Royal Indian Navy, 1937.
6. Handbook " How to become an officer in the Royal Indian Navy ".
7. Some facts and figures about Indian Defence, 1935-36.
8. Audit Report, Defence Services.
9. Report on the Health of the Army in India.
10. Annual Report of the Indian Soldiers' Board.
11. Return showing the actual strength of the Army and Royal Air Force in India, 1938.
12. Regulations respecting admission to the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, 1937.
13. Regulations for the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun, 1934.
14. Syllabus of Kitchener College, Nowgong.
15. Regulations respecting entry of Indians to the Indian Air Force, 1933.
16. Regulations respecting recruitment etc., of commissioned officers of the Royal Indian Navy.
17. Rules for admission of Indians to commissioned rank in the Indian Army Veterinary Corps.

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A Summary of Important Matters concerning the Defence Services in India 1938-39.

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A SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DEFENCE SERVICES IN INDIA, 1938-39.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL.

1. *Object.*—In the course of a debate in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March 1934, the Defence Secretary promised to consider the possibility of producing annually for the benefit of the Members of the Central Legislature an account of the chief activities of the Defence Services during the previous 12 months. In the following pages, a brief description of the more important measures put into effect during the period 1st April 1938 to the 31st March 1939 are given.

It is hoped that the information contained therein will prove of interest and of use to Members.

2. *Duties of the armed forces.*—Armed forces are maintained by the Government of India for the defence of India against external aggression and for the maintenance of internal peace and tranquillity.

The following constitutes a brief description of the functions of each defence service :—

(*i*) *Royal Indian Navy.*—

For the safety of her sea communications, India depends on protection by the Royal Navy, to co-operate with which she maintains a squadron of small sea-going vessels capable of dealing with small raiding warships of hostile armed merchantmen.

The primary function of the Royal Indian Navy is, however, to provide for local naval defence, *i.e.*, to protect shipping against light surface craft, mines and submarines in Indian ports and harbours and in the immediate approaches thereto.

(*ii*) *Army.*—

Land forces maintained by the Government of India are divided into the following main categories :—

(*a*) Frontier Defence troops, for the defence of the Western Frontier and for the control of the tribes within the Durand Line.

(*b*) Internal Security troops, to support the Civil power in the maintenance of law and order and to guard the main arteries of communication in India.

(*c*) Coast Defence troops, to undertake the local defence of the principal ports in War.

(*d*) Air Defence Troops, to provide ground defence against hostile air attack.

(*e*) The General Reserve, to be used in the defence of India as a whole as circumstances may demand, and to reinforce the troops in the previous categories as necessary.

(*iii*) *Air Forces in India.*—

The duties of the Air Forces in India include co-operation with the other defence services in the control of tribes on the Western Frontier and in the defence of India against attack across her land frontiers or coast line.

In addition, the Air Forces are prepared to act independently of the other services in these tasks.

3. *Necessity for modernization.*—

Since the Great War, research and experiment have produced new and more powerful weapons. The development of armoured and unarmoured mechanical vehicles has shown the paramount need to eliminate horsed cavalry and animal traction and transport except where it is necessary to retain them for use in areas unsuitable to movement by mechanized forces.

Since 1934, when the process of modernization may be said to have begun in earnest in other armies, the resultant changes have appreciably affected the theory and practice of warfare and it has become increasingly apparent that those armies which do not adopt new weapons, equipments and means of mobility, will be placed in war at a most serious disadvantage.

The prospect of a future world war shows clearly that India cannot base the organization and equipment of her forces solely on potential operations in defence of her land frontier, though this task alone demands considerable re-equipment both to guard against the new weapons which will be used and to enable the fullest advantage to be taken of scientific and mechanical developments. There is an evident possibility that the security of India's sea frontiers and trade may be threatened, in which contingency it may well be essential to deny or deprive the enemy of bases in adjacent countries without which hostile naval vessels would be unable to operate for long in Indian waters. Opposition from the most highly modernized forces may then be encountered.

This brief survey should be sufficient to show that all forces of the Army in India must keep pace with modern military progress. The problem will be further discussed in Chapter II.

4. *Events leading up to the institution of the Chatfield Committee.*—It will be realized that the expense involved, not only in the initial outlay on modernization measures but in providing all possible sources of supply and maintenance within the borders of India, is enormous, running into many crores of rupees.

On the other hand, the demands of Defence are regulated by the amount of money that can be made available. Although during the last few years the world situation has progressively worsened, our net Defence expenditure has been reduced from 55 crores in 1929 to approximately 46. If this amount is accepted as the limit justifiable by India's financial resources, the problem is how to obtain a higher degree of mobility, and the greater striking and

defensive power conferred by modern armaments, including tanks and their antidotes, aircraft and anti-aircraft guns, anti-gas protection, mechanized transport and other essentials for modern warfare, without exceeding that sum.

It was to discuss this problem and its solution that General Sir Ivo Vesey, Chief of the General Staff, accompanied by Air Marshal Joubert de la Ferte, Air Officer Commanding, and other officers proceeded to London in April 1938. The need for early action to place the defence organization of India on a satisfactory basis was recognized and accepted. It was not possible in the time available to reach agreement on all matters but an offer was made by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, subject to the approval of Parliament, to increase by £500,000 with effect from the 1st April 1939, the annual grant of £ 1,500,000 which has been paid to the Government of India since 1933 in aid of Indian Defence expenditure. In addition, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom proposed to ask Parliament to authorise the offer to the Government of India of a capital grant upto £5,000,000 for the re-equipment of certain British and Indian units in India and, in addition, to authorise the provision of aircraft for the re-equipment of certain squadrons of the Royal Air Force. It was also agreed that four British Battalions should be transferred from the Indian to the Imperial Government and this was carried out before the end of 1938.

5. *Chatfield Committee.*—An expert body of enquiry known as the Chatfield Committee was consequently set up to proceed to India to investigate the military and financial aspects of the problem on the spot and to submit a report before discussions between the two Governments were carried to their conclusion.

The terms of reference allotted to this Committee were as follows :—

> " Having regard to the increased cost of modern armaments, to the desirability of organizing, equipping and maintaining the forces in India in accordance with modern requirements, to the limited resources available in India for defence expenditure, to examine and report, in the light of experience gained in executing the British rearmament programme how these resources could be used to the best advantage and to make recommendations ".

The Committee was composed as follows :—

Chairman.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord CHATFIELD, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., C.V.O.

Members.

Sir ERNEST STROHMENGER, G.B.E., C.B.

Lieut.-General Sir BERTRAM N. SERGISON BROOKE, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Air Vice Marshal C. L. COURTNEY, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Major General C. J. E. AUCHINLECK, C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., O.B.E.

Secretary.

Mr. S. K. BROWN, C.B., C.V.O. (India Office).

Assistant Secretary.

Mr. M. J. DEAN of the Air Ministry.

The Committee was assisted by the following :—

Paymaster Captain R. C. JERRAM, C.B.E., D. S. O., who acted as Private Secretary to Lord Chatfield.

Mr. A. J. NEWLING, M.V.O., T.D. of the Finance Department, War Office.

Major P. R. ANTROBUS, M.C., R.E., of the General Staff, Army Headquarters (India), Staff Officer attached to the Committee during their stay in India.

The Committee assembled at Delhi early in November where witnesses were examined. After visits to the Frontier and Calcutta, the Committee completed their work and returned to Great Britain early in March. Their report is still under the consideration of His Majesty's Government.

CHAPTER. II.

MODERNIZATION.

6. The remarks in the previous Chapter on the necessity for modernization were there inserted primarily for the purpose of indicating the sequence of events which led to the appointment of the Chatfield Committee. Some amplification of the brief survey contained in paragraph 3 of Chapter I may, however, be of interest.

7. *Review of recent developments* ex-*India.*—It is common knowledge that during the last few years, the energies of all first class powers have been devoted to the re-arming and re-equipping of their forces on modern lines.

In general, the cavalry has forsaken the horse for the tank, the armoured car or for other armoured and un-armoured vehicles dependent on the task which each unit is designed to fulfil. Artillery is re-arming with more powerful, accurate and longer range weapons drawn almost invariably by mechanical traction. Engineers are acquiring power tools and are fully motorised. Recent developments in wireless telegraphy and radio telephony have revolutionized signal equipment, while the infantry, in addition to being re-armed with modern offensive and defensive weapons, has been provided with mechanized transport and is no longer regarded as an arm confined to movement on foot. The tremendous strides in the speed and range of aircraft have not only demanded the complete re-equipment of air forces but have necessitated corresponding changes in the methods, weapons and strengths of anti-aircraft defences. Developments in the design and armament of naval vessels have entailed no lesser alterations to coast defence equipments.

8. *Reaction on India.*—For a few years India could be content to watch the greater part of these developments, partly because her military problems did not then render modernization and mechanization so pressing, and partly because insuperable financial limitations would not allow her to indulge in experiment. During this period, however, a beginning was made, and gradual progress towards modernization has been steadily effected.

Later, however, changes in the international situation as well as further developments in the technique of mechanised armaments made it clear that, wherever they may operate, troops of the Army in India might be required to face new weapons of superior range and power which, moreover, are capable of being moved at high speed from point to point, and that the situation no longer admitted of a parochial consideration of India's defence problems. In this connection it may be observed that even countries adjacent to India are being forced to acquire modern weapons partly as a measure of self defence and partly on account of their inability to purchase further supplies of their existing equipments from abroad. For the past two and a half years, therefore, the problem of modernizing and mechanizing India's army in the best and most economical way, having due regard to Indian needs and conditions, has been occupying the earnest attention of the military authorities. Complete and considered plans have been prepared, and a substantial degree of ordered progress has already been achieved towards the goal, which is that all elements, British and Indian, of the Defence Forces in India must, provided always that due consideration is given to special local conditions such as those which obtain on the North-West Frontier, be put on a level with the forces of any possible enemy.

9. *Cost of Modernization.*—The provision of our forces with modern equipment necessarily involves a heavy initial outlay, and in this connection the following figures may be of interest :—

	Lakhs.
3·7″ Anti-aircraft—2 gun section	3·82
A light tank (tracked)	1·06
An armoured car	·3
A bomber aircraft	2·6.
An army co-operation aircraft	1·7
A 25-pounder gun	·54
An escort vessel R. I. N.	47·00

10. *Supply problem involved.*—The provision of the necessary arms and equipment involved by the adoption of modernization presents an enormous problem. India is not yet a highly industrialised country, and supplies from overseas are liable to interception. It is therefore essential, both from an economic and military point of view, that all possible sources of supply within India should be explored and developed.

It must be remembered, however, that the manufacture of arms and modern military equipment, to say nothing of aircraft and warships, is a highly specialised industry, while the resources of India capable of being devoted to such supply are at present unfortunately limited. Any attempt to expand suddenly must be fraught with unexpected difficulties and disappointments. This matter is being investigated by the Principal Supply Officers' Committee (India), whose activities are described in Chapter IX.

11. Every possible step, however, is being taken to obtain requirements from within India's borders, though, as will be appreciated, details cannot be disclosed in a public document.

CHAPTER III.

Operations and use of Troops.

(See sketch map—Appendix II.)

12. *Operations in Waziristan, April 1938—March 1939.*– The period under review in the last summary closed with an account of the steps taken to force the Madda Khel to control the Faqir of Ipi, or to expel him from their country. These were successful for the time being, but further action for the same reasons had to be taken against the Madda Khel between April and June 1938 and also in the spring of 1939.

Waziristan as a whole remained in an unsettled state, and a series of incidents, mostly at the instigation of the Faqir, continued to take place throughout a large part of the ensuing year.

13. On the 14th April, after a hard fought action, a force of South Waziristan Scouts, supported by aircraft dispersed a gang of about 150 Mahsuds under the notorious irreconcilable Mullah Sher Ali in the Dargai Sar area to the west of Jandola and air action, after due warning, was taken against portions of Mahsud territory who had given shelter to Sher Ali's gang.

14. In North Waziristan, the Faqir of Ipi who had been sheltering in the Kharre Area, a mountainous locality in proximity to the Afghan border and lying east of Madda Khel country, raised a " lashkar " of several hundred tribesmen, with three guns of tribal manufacture. The Tochi Scouts post at Datta Khel and the Khassadar post on the Lwargi Narai were attacked. Operations against this hostile body began on the 2nd June with an advance from Razani towards Mamirogha, and by the 6th June the enemy, who had been severely handled in several engagements, were greatly diminished in strength, though not entirely dispersed.

During the remainder of June, the Faqir of Ipi, continued to organize hostilities against Government. By early in July he again collected a considerable body of tribesmen with which he threatened the posts and communications in the Upper Tochi Valley. This " lashkar " was dispersed by operations which lasted from the 10th to the 19th July, in which troops, Tochi Scouts, and Royal Air Force units each played their part. The Faqir fled before the troops arrived, and a considerable portion of his resources in rifles, ammunition and supplies were captured.

The success of this operation ensured a period of comparative quiet in North Waziristan.

15. Early in June information was received indicating that two religious leaders, or " Pirs ", were conspiring to unite the Mahsuds, Wazirs, and the Ghilzais (Afghan subjects), with a view to hostile action against the Afghan Government. One of these " Pirs " was quickly removed from Waziristan. The other, known as the " Shami Pir ", a foreigner from Damascus, having previously concealed his intentions, suddenly revealed them at a large tribal meeting on the 13th June, when he persuaded many tribesmen to follow his leadership into Afghanistan. On the 23rd June he began his move towards the Afghan border.

Warnings were issued at once by Government to restrain the Mahsuds and Wazirs from accompanying the Shami Pir, and continuous air patrols were established to observe any move towards the frontier. The patrolling aircraft were heavily fired on on several occasions and were obliged to take retaliatory action. As a result of this and of political pressure, the Shami Pir's followers began to dwindle in strength and parties of disheartened tribesmen returned to their villages. The Shami Pir realising that his movement had failed, surrendered to Government, under safe conduct, and was deported from the country.

16. During July, Mullah Sher Ali and his gang of Mahsuds again took the field in South Waziristan. On the 11th July he attacked the South Waziristan Post at Splitoi without success, and was subsequently taught a sharp lesson in engagements with the South Waziristan Scouts near Sararogha Post on the 13th July, and Ladha Post on the 18th July. After due warning air action was again taken against certain Bahlolzai Mahsud villages who had been guilty of harbouring Sher Ali's gang.

17. Hostile acts at the instigation of the Faqir of Ipi, now started in a fresh area. A gang, under one Mehr Dil an outlaw, based on the precipitous Junighar Hills in the Ahmadzai Wazir salient, to the north of Bannu, made raids on villages in the Bannu and Kohat Districts and on traffic on the Bannu-Kohat road.

From the middle of June onwards, troops and civil armed forces, supported by aircraft when necessary, were employed to protect the road between Bannu and Kohat, and to guard against raiders.

On the night of the 23rd/24th July, Mehr Dil's gang, reinforced by local sympathisers and bad characters, raided Bannu city. Property was looted and houses and shops were burnt. Fighting with police, Frontier Constabulary and troops in Bannu City continued for about an hour before the raiders were ejected. The gang dispersed over a wide area rendering pursuit during the hours of darkness difficult.

With the object of deterring gangs from using the Ahmadzai Wazir salient as a base for raiding, after due warning tactical air proscription was imposed on the whole area from the 31st July to the 26th August. No raiding from the salient took place after the 12th August.

18. In September it became necessary to use the Razmak-Wana road for the passage of stores, and the Razmak and Wana Columns were employed for this purpose. They were opposed by Mullah Sher Ali and his gang which were dispersed after a sharp engagement with troops and aircraft on the 12th September. As a result Mullah Sher Ali remained inactive for a considerable period.

Later in September, three columns of Tochi and South Waziristan Scouts entered the Bannu Ahmadzai Wazir Salient, to deal with raiders who were again harbouring there. They were supported by aircraft, while Frontier Constabulary blocked the exits from the Salient. The very precipitous nature of the country made movement difficult, but the operation was successfully carried out and, for the time being, raiding across the Kohat-Bannu road practically ceased.

19. By the end of October the annual migration of the tribes to their winter locations had taken place. The failure of the Tori Khel to control their bad characters, who had been responsible for raids and kidnappings, made it necessary to bring pressure on certain sections of the tribe by denying them the use of their winter grazing grounds.

Except for attacks on civilian traffic and minor outrages by gangs who were in close touch with the Faqir, November passed quietly.

On the other hand raiding into the settled districts increased, accompanied by casualties to civilians and kidnappings.*

Pressure was maintained on the Tori Khel and in consequence tribal approaches were made to hostile leaders to induce them to make their peace with Government; these were unsuccessful.

20. In December there was recrudescence of hostile activity in South Waziristan on the part of the Manzai Mahsuds to the west of Kotkai. In order to support the maliks, this area was visited by the Razmak and Wana Columns. During the march of the Razmak Column there was some minor opposition, and the Shabi Khel Mahsuds, within whose limits this opposition occurred, were subsequently punished by fines. The movement through Manzai Mahsud country was unopposed and all the hostile agitators were either surrendered or satisfactory settlements made for their future good behaviour.

21. The Faqir of Ipi had for some time been sheltering in Madda Khel Wazir country, in contravention of the undertaking given by that tribe earlier in the year. Some weeks were allowed to elapse in order to judge the effect of tribal approaches, which, as stated above, proved unsuccessful. Owing to the lack of response to these approaches, pressure was brought to bear by air action, after due warning, on the villages and sections harbouring him. By this means he was kept continually on the move and prevented from re-establishing a headquarter from which to organize further hostilities.

22. During January pressure was maintained by air action on those sections of the Madda Khel Wazirs who were known to have harboured the Faqir.

Pressure on the Tori Khel was intensified and a column of troops entered the Lower Khaisora valley.

A blockade, carried out mainly by civil armed forces, was imposed on the Ahmadzai Wazir Salient whence raids had again had their origin.

There was a marked increase in the incidence of kidnapping and raiding in the settled districts bordering Waziristan.

23. Early in February there was some deterioration of the situation owing, in all probability, to propaganda that had been spread by the Faqir of Ipi and his chief supporters with the intention of reviving hostilities on a larger scale. In particular the attitude of the Madda Khel Wazirs became unsatisfactory and a "lashkar" assembled and attacked Datta Khel post. Owing,

* During the year there were 48 raids into Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan Districts alone; 80 persons were kidnapped and 13 killed.

however, to lack of success and the subsequent onset of severe weather conditions the majority of the tribesmen dispersed after a few days of hostile activity in the area. On 26th February, air blockade and other measures were instituted against the Madda Khel.

Raiding into the districts of Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan diminished.

24. The air blockade of the Madda Khel Wazirs had a good effect. Early in March tribal representatives presented themselves in a submissive mood, and by the end of March the tribe appeared to be making genuine efforts to obtain a general compliance with the terms announced to them. They complied early in April and the blockade was accordingly raised.

Proscriptive air action and blockade measures continued against the Tori Khel Wazirs. During the month troops operated in the Khaisora and Shaktu valleys. There was some sharp fighting in the Shaktu valley in the course of which the tribesmen who had assembled sustained a number of casualties.

Blockade action against the Ahmadzai Wazirs brought about the expulsion of the outlaw Mehr Dil from the Ahmadzai Wazir Salient.

The Faqir of Ipi who since January had remained in Afghan territory a short distance across the Durand Line continued in his efforts to foment trouble, but his propaganda did not result in any considerable addition to the number of hostile gangs.

25. It is idle to attempt any prediction of the course events are likely to follow in Waziristan. At the end of the period under review conditions remained disturbed but were showing definite signs of improvement. Raiding into settled districts was still prevalent. There are indications that the restoration of a state of tranquillity in Waziristan is genuinely wished for by many of the hitherto hostile tribesmen.

26. *Cost.*—

The cost of the land and air operations between 1st April 1938 and 31st March 1939 is estimated at 45 Lakhs.

27. *Casualties.*—

The casualties incurred during the period by the forces engaged were as under :—

	Regular Forces.	
	Killed or died of wounds.	Wounded.
British Officers	3	3
Viceroy's Commissioned Officers ..	1	8
British Other Ranks	5	17*
Indian Other Ranks	50	178
Followers	3	5

* Includes 1 R. A. F.

	Civil Armed Forces.	
	Killed or died of wounds.	Wounded.
British Officers	1	1
Viceroy's Commissioned Officers ..	..	2
Indian Other Ranks	16	49

Civilian Followers.	
Killed.	Wounded.
3	1

28. *Troops called up in Aid of the Civil Power.*—During the year under review, troops were called upon to 'stand to' for internal security duties in aid of the Civil Power in the Provinces, on 45 occasions, as compared with a total of 23 in 1937/38 and 19 in 1936/37.

Of these 45 occasions, on 19 the troops were actually 'called out' for periods of time varying from a few hours to several days, as compared with four such occasions in each of the two previous years.

Except for two occasions when the troops called upon were detachments of the Auxiliary Force, the call was made upon regular troops.

The following table shows the number of times troops were called upon in each Province.

	Total number of times troops 'stood by'.	Total number of times troops were actually 'called out'.
United Provinces	26	10
Delhi	6	1
Punjab	4	2
Bengal	2	2
Bihar	2	2
N. W. F. Province	2	2
Bombay	2	..
Central Provinces	1	..
Assam, Madras, Orissa and Sind ..	..	..
	45	19

29. *Troops called out in Aid of Indian States.*—During the year under review, it was found necessary on a number of occasions to despatch regular troops, both British and Indian, into certain States for the purpose of the restoration of law and order. This was not found necessary in 1936/37 nor in 1937/38.

Troops proceeded to and remained in the Eastern States for periods as follows :—

Dhenkanal, Talcher and Ranpur.—One company of a British battalion for 10 days in September.

One company of an Indian battalion for 10 weeks in October, November and December.

Three companies from two Indian battalions for varying periods in January.

One Indian battalion from 13th January to the end of the period under review.

Nandgaon and Chhuikhadan.—One company of an Indian battalion for five weeks in November and December.

100 ranks, Indian Cavalry, from 7th January
One company of an Indian battalion from 6th February
} to the end of the period under review.

CHAPTER IV.

Organization.

30. *Re-organization of Headquarters Formations.*—

With effect from the 1st November 1938, the Western Command (including the Baluchistan District) ceased to exist as such and the area hitherto occupied by that formation became the Western (Independent) District. No reduction was made in the number of brigades within the area but the Sind and Zhob Brigades relinquished their independent status. Coincidently with this reorganization a new brigade was formed at Thal in the Kohat District.

31. *Re-organization of units, etc.*—During the period under review certain re-organizations were carried out in connection with the policy of modernization. It will be seen that these adjustments involved certain reductions in the number of the units serving in India.

The main measures carried out are as follows :—

In addition to the two British Cavalry Regiments whose mechanisation was referred to in paragraph 16 of last year's Summary, a third British Cavalry Regiment commenced mechanisation at Secunderabad in October 1938.

The fourth British Cavalry Regiment is to be withdrawn from India and not replaced.

As regards Artillery units, three Field Regiments are now on a mechanised basis. One Field Regiment was withdrawn from the Indian establishment with

effect from the 31st March 1939 and one Horse Artillery Battery has been transferred to the Imperial Government.

Three companies of the Royal Tank Regiment in India were disbanded during the period under review.

Certain adjustments and reductions in Signal and Sapper and Miner units have been carried out.

No. 4 Section, Indian Army Veterinary Corps at Sialkot was disbanded with effect from the 15th May 1938 consequent on the conversion of two Indian Cavalry Regiments into Armoured Car Regiments.

On the re-organisation of Western Command, it has been found possible to dispense with four 3-ton Independent Mechanical Transport Sections (lower establishment). On the other hand certain workshop units have been formed for the maintenance of units recently mechanised.

32. *Indian units overseas.*—During the period under review, the situation as regards these remained unchanged. The question of withdrawing the Indian Infantry Battalion serving at Taiping in the Malay States has been reconsidered, and its retention there found desirable for the present. The 1/2nd Punjab Regiment have returned to India from there and have been replaced by the 2nd Battalion, 17th Dogra Regiment.

33. *Recruiting.*—Recruiting during the period under review has, on the whole, been satisfactory. There are no changes in the recruiting organization given in paragraph 20 of last year's report.

34. *Medal.*—His Majesty the King approved of a new medal being struck to commemorate military operations in or on the Frontier of India. The new medal is known as the " India General Service Medal, 1936 " and supersedes the " India General Service Medal 1908 ". This medal with clasp " North West Frontier 1936/37 " has been awarded to the forces which were employed in the operations in Waziristan 1936-37.

CHAPTER V.

FINANCE.

35. *Defence expenditure—India.*—

Estimates 1938-39.—The Budget Estimates for Defence Services which includes the Navy, Army and Air Forces for 1938-39 was fixed at 45·18 crores as against 44·62 crores in 1937-38. There was an increase, therefore, of 56 lakhs over the provision of the previous year, and this amount together with 27 lakhs being the first instalment of a contribution of His Majesty's Government towards the mechanisation of certain Cavalry and Infantry units in India, was made available for the purpose.

36. *Actual expenditure 1938-39.*—Actual expenditure for 1938-39 is 46·18 crores or an increase of 1 crore over the original appropriation. The principal reasons which led to this excess are firstly the necessity to apply to British soldiers on the Indian establishment improved conditions of service

sanctioned by His Majesty's Government estimated at 115 lakhs; secondly, the continuance on a rather desultory scale of operations in Waziristan estimated to cost 45 lakhs, counterbalanced by savings which were partly due to the release of 4 British Battalions from the Indian establishment (16 lakhs), partly to economies effected in expenditure (14 lakhs) and to a certain extent due to restriction of expenditure on the mechanisation of certain units.

37. *Budget estimates 1939-40.*—The budget for 1939-40 has been fixed at Rs. 45·18 crores. The comparative figures of Defence expenditure since 1930 are as follows :—

Year.	Crores of Rs.
1930-31	54·30
1931-32	51·76
1932-33	46·74
1933-34	44·42
1934-35	44·34
1935-36	44·98
1936-37	45·45
1937-38	47·22
1938-39 (Budget)	45·18 (Estimate).
1938-39 (Revised)	46·18 (Estimate).

38. *Defence expenditure—Great Britain and Dominions.*—A brief review of Defence expenditure for 1938, of Great Britain and other dominions may be of interest.

Australia, with a total population of just under 7 millions maintains a fleet of the total tonnage of some sixty thousand tons, including four cruisers and five destroyers.

Its Air Force consists of seven squadrons of aircraft and is being considerably increased. The land forces consisting of 41,000, mostly volunteers, are being increased and re-equipped. Considerable expenditure on coast defence is also being incurred.

The Commonwealth Treasurer has forecast the expenditure for 1939 at £16¾ millions or over Rs. 30 per head.

Canada, with a population of about 10½ millions maintains naval forces on both the Pacific and Atlantic coasts which are being more than doubled in number, while coast defences, particularly on the Pacific coast, are being established. Its air force consists of 8 permanent and 7 semi-permanent squadrons. This too is being increased and with the existence of an aircraft industry in Canada forms a valuable nucleus for rapid expansion in War.

The expenditure budgeted for 1938-39 was over 34 million dollars or approximately £7,000,000 which represents an expenditure of roughly Rs. 8/8/- per head of the population.

New Zealand, with a population of 1½ millions maintains two cruisers and auxiliary craft.

The Air Force consists of over two squadrons.

The regular army comprises some 500 ranks while the territorial establishment is about 12,000.

The total expenditure for 1938-39 on Defence being £ 2 million roughly works out at Rs. 17/12/- per head of the population.

The Union of South Africa, though maintaining little or no naval craft, have recently decided to make their ports proof against attack by even the largest warships by installing coast defence guns at a cost of over a million pounds.

Their Air Forces which have hitherto been mainly on a training basis are under expansion, while their citizen army consists of some 1,000 permanent personnel, 9,000 citizen force, with a reserve of 1,26,000 trained men.

Their expenditure on Defence for 1938-39 is estimated at approximately 4½ million pounds, representing an expenditure of roughly Rs. 6 per head of the population.

Great Britain, it is estimated, with its 47 millions inhabitants, is to spend over 650 million pounds on Defence during the current year. This represents a cost of £14 or Rs. 180 per head of the population.

India, with its population of over 370 millions and 5,000 miles of coast line spends on Defence roughly Rs. 46 crores, which works out at Rs. 1/4/- per head of the population.

CHAPTER VI.

INDIANIZATION.

39. *Policy.*—

The accepted policy of Indianization of the Army remains the same. It is, briefly, to introduce Indianized units to the equivalent of one division, one cavalry brigade and ancillary troops. This decision embraces all arms and branches of the service.

40. *Progress.*—

The normal output of the Indian Military Academy remains approximately 56 cadets per annum. The following figures give the progress up to date :—

Number of Indian Commissioned Officers appointed to commissions	247
Number of Indian Commissioned Officers resigned, removed or deceased	5
Number of Indian Commissioned Officers now serving ..	242

Number of Indian Commissioned Officers who have already joined Indian Army units is made up as follows :—

Cavalry	13	
Infantry	146	
Indian Artillery	5	173
Corps of Indian Engineers	6	
Indian Signal Corps	3	

In addition there are 69 Indian Commissioned Officers attached to British units or undergoing post-graduate training.

41. *Indian Military Academy.*—

During the year, cadets were admitted to the Indian Military Academy as follows :—

August 1938 ..	15	by competitive examination,
	15	from the Indian Army, and
	10	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
Total ..	40	
January 1939 ..	15	by competitive examination,
	15	from the Indian Army, and
	9	from Indian States for the Indian States Forces.
Total ..	39	

In the passing out examination held in May 1938, of 27 cadets all were successful, and at the examination held in December, 1938, all 32 cadets were successful.

The number of candidates presenting themselves for examination dropped to 79 in October 1938 but rose again to 91 in the examination which was held in April 1939. With the exception of the entry for March/April 1935, this is the largest number that has appeared for a March examination for some years.

42. *Kitchener College.*—

Sixty Indian Army students are selected annually for admission to the Kitchener College, Nowgong, in July and December. Candidates successfully completing the eighteen months' course appear before a Selection Board and twenty-six are selected annually for admission to the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun. In addition four Indian Territorial Force and/or Auxiliary Force candidates are selected.

This system of selection, which has proved successful, has superseded the method of direct entry from units to the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun.

43. *Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun.*—

The College has now been recognized by the Cambridge Examinations Syndicate for the issue of the Cambridge School Certificate " A ". The effect of this is that a cadet who is unsuccessful in obtaining a competitive vacancy for the Indian Military Acamedy may, if he wishes, continue his studies at a university without passing matriculation and in some universities will be accepted in the second year class for the Intermediate examination.

The Punjab Government have agreed to provide five scholarships a year for Punjabi Cadets at the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College, tenable for a period not exceeding eight years and five scholarships a year for Punjab Cadets who graduate from the Prince of Wales's Royal Indian Military College to the Indian Military Academy, tenable for a period of two and a half years.

The following new measures have been introduced in connection with Indianization of the Army:—

44. *Extra regimental employment.*—

British officers and King's Commissioned Indian Officers after serving for a number of years with their units, and having obtained certain qualifications, are eligible for extra regimental employment with such units as the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, Indian Army Ordnance Corps, Army Remount Department, Military Farms Department, Judge Advocate General's Department, Survey of India, etc.

Certain Indian Commissioned Officers are now within the service limitations, and extra regimental employment is now open to these officers subject to the same conditions as British officers and King's commissioned Indian Officers.

Specific units of these departments are not being Indianized, and Indianization will proceed by dispersion throughout the Corps and Departments.

45. *Revision of the financial indenture for students at the Indian Military Academy.*—

Originally if the cadet or his guarantors failed to comply with certain contingencies, or if the cadet left the academy of his own volition, or resigned his commission within the first five years of his service, the guarantors were liable to pay Government any sum, not exceeding Rs. 5,000 which Government may have expended on the training of the cadet.

It was considered that cadets who did not desire to remain at the academy should not be compelled to do so by threat of financial forfeit, and for this reason the indenture bond shown in Regulations respecting admission to the Indian Military Academy has been revised.

The revised financial indenture was published under Army Instruction India) No. 279 of 1938. Guarantors who signed the original certificate have accordingly been released from the liability referred to above.

46. *Appointment to commissions in the Indian Land Forces.—*

Prior to January 1939, Indian Commissioned Officers intended for such arms as Artillery, Engineers and Signals were seconded from and Indianized Cavalry or Infantry unit while undergoing attachment or post-graduate courses.

Indian commissioned officers are now granted commissions in His Majesty's Land Forces and appointed direct to their arms of the service to carry out training.

This action was taken in conjunction with the introduction of the Woolwich wing of the Indian Military Academy for the purpose of training cadets specifically for Artillery, Engineers and Signals.

47. *Indianization—Military Engineer Services.—*

A further measure of Indianization in the Military Engineer Services, comprising the following, has been sanctioned :—

(*i*) Increase of 1 Civilian Assistant Engineer in the Buildings and Roads Branch.

(*ii*) Introduction of a cadre of 2 Civilian Assistant Engineers in the Furniture and Stores Branch.

(*iii*) Increase of 7 Civilian Sub-Divisional Officers in the Buildings and Roads Branch.

(*iv*) Increase of 15 Civilian Sub-Divisional Officers in the Electrical and Mechanical Branch.

(*v*) Introduction of a cadre of 15 civilian sub-Divisional Officers in the Furniture and Stores Branch.

(*vi*) Increase of 6 Civilian Supervisors in the Furniture and Store Branch.

The revised establishments are being gradually completed by appointing civilians against vacancies released by casualties among departmental officers and military sub-divisional officers.

48. *Indian Army Veterinary Corps.—*

The position regarding Indianization remains the same as last year. The establishment for 1938-39 was sixteen. The actual strength of Indian Commissioned Officers was fifteen including one on probation.

There is at present a shortage of candidates which, however, appears likely to be rectified in the course of the next few years owing to the increased number of Indian gentlemen now studying for the diploma of Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

49. *Appointment of Indianization Committee.—*

In accordance with the undertaking given by the Secretary, Defence Department, in the Legislative Assembly on the 2nd September 1938, the

Government of India have appointed a Committee with the following composition and terms of reference:—

(*a*) COMPOSITION.

Chairman.

Lieutenant-General, Sir R. C. WILSON, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Adjutant General in India.

Members.

The Hon'ble Sir A. P. PATRO, K.C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur L. RAMSARAN DAS, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Mr. V. V. KALIKAR.

The Hon'ble Nawabzada KHURSHID ALI KHAN, M.B.E.

Captain Sardar Sir SHER MOHAMMAD KHAN, C.I.E., M.B.E., M.L.A.

Captain Sardar Bahadur DALPAT SINGH, O.B.I., I.O.M., M.L.A.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. A. RAHMAN, I.M.S., M.L.A.

Mr. P. R. DAMZEN, M.L.A.

Khan Bahadur Nawab MUZAFFAR KHAN, C.I.E.

Sir JOGENDRA SINGH.

Dr. B. S. MOONJE.

Mr. C. MacI. G. OGILVIE, C.B.E., I.C.S., M.L.A.

Colonel G. A. PIM.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. L. LLOYD, M.C.

Pandit H. N. KUNZRU.

Sir MOHAMMAD YAKUB.

Secretary.

Major D. R. E. R. BATEMAN.

(*b*) TERMS OF REFERENCE.

To examine the progress of Indianization of the officer ranks of the Indian Army with a view to determining whether the results achieved justify acceleration, and if it appears from this examination that they do not, to consider such alteration in the system of recruitment to the Indian Military Academy as may be expected to lead to an improvement in the number of suitable candidates and to make recommendations.

CHAPTER VII.

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.

50. *Personnel.*—

The present strength of the Royal Indian Navy on the 1st April 1939 consisted of 186 officers, including those lent to the Commerce Department, and 1,153 ratings excluding boys under training.

In pursuance of the Expansion Programme of the Royal Indian Navy, the establishment was increased during 1938-39 by 12 officers and 205 ratings.

51. *Initial Training of Officers.*—

Full initial training of officers, amounting to 3 years and 9 months for Executive, and 4 years and 8 months for Engineer Officers, was introduced during 1938-39. Officers entering the Royal Indian Navy now do exactly the same training in England, as Cadet, Midshipman and Sub-Lieutenant as a cadet entering the Royal Navy from a British public school.

52. *Introduction of Commissioned Warrant Rank.*—

A scheme providing for promotion of Warrant Officers to Commissioned Warrant rank, on the lines of that in force in the Royal Navy, was introduced during 1938-39.

53. *Introduction of Revised Rates of Pay for Indian Warrant Officers.*—

An improvement in the pay of Indian Warrant Officers has remedied an unsatisfactory situation which had existed since the revision of pay of Commissioned and British Warrant Officers.

54. *Boys' Training Establishment.*—

In September 1938 the Government of India sanctioned the separation from the Depot of the Boys' Training Establishment, which became an independent command. This Establishment continues for the present to be located in Bombay but will shortly be transferred to Manora (Karachi) when the new buildings now under construction there are completed.

55. *Indian Officers.*—

Two open examinations were held in October 1938 and March 1939, and a special examination for "DUFFERIN" cadets in October 1938. As a result of the "DUFFERIN" examination, 3 cadets were entered for the Executive branch and one for Engineering. No candidates obtained qualifying marks at the open examinations.

On 1st April 1939, there were 9 Indian officers in the Executive and 9 in the Engineering branch of the Royal Indian Navy, and 14 Indian Midshipmen and Cadets were under instruction in England.

56. *Indian Naval Reserve Forces.*—

Sanction has been given for the formation of the Royal Indian Fleet Reserve and Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve. The object of the Fleet Reserve is to retain the services of trained ratings of the Royal Indian Navy after they have ceased to be actively employed.

Recruitment has begun for the Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve, which consists of officers only. These officers need not necessarily have had previous sea experience, but are instructed in naval duties during periodical

training and will be available to meet increased requirements of officers in war. British and Indian Officers are recruited in equal proportions, and a satisfactory number of candidates have come forward.

It is hoped shortly to start recruiting for the Royal Indian Naval Reserve, which will consist of officers and men of the Mercantile Marine.

57. *Vessels and their equipment.*—

No change has occurred during the past year in the vessels composing the Royal Indian Navy.

It is hoped that some provision will be made in the near future for the replacement of obsolete ships and equipment.

58. *Naval Wireless Telegraphy Station.*—

The construction of the new Royal Indian Navy Wireless Telegraphy Station at Bombay, which was started in November 1937, was completed in January 1939.

59. *Cruises during the year.*—

H. M. I. S. "CLIVE" visited Karwar in April 1938, and carried out Minesweeping and other exercises.

In June 1938 H. M. I. S. "CLIVE", "HINDUSTAN", "INDUS" and "LAWRENCE" visited Karachi for a training cruise.

The Flag Officer Commanding in "CLIVE", with "HINDUSTAN" "INDUS" and "LAWRENCE" in company, proceeded on a cruise to Persian Gulf ports in July and August, returning to Karachi on completion. The ships returned from Karachi to Bombay in September.

H. M. I. S. "LAWRENCE" visited Kathiawar ports and Karachi in October and November 1938.

In November H. M. I. S. "HINDUSTAN" visited Karachi and Khor Kuwai, taking part in exercises with the Persian Gulf Division of the Royal Navy. "INDUS" visited West coast ports with His Excellency the Governor of Bombay and Lady Lumley, who made a public landing at Marmagoa.

Starting in December H. M. I. S. "INDUS" carried out an extensive cruise, visiting Ceylon, East coast ports, Burma, Mergui Archipelago and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Flag Officer Commanding embarked at Calcutta, visiting Rangoon and the Andamans and disembarking at Madras. A detachment was landed to take part in the Proclamation Day Parade at Calcutta.

H. M. I. S. "CORNWALLIS" visited West coast ports in November and December. In January 1939 "HINDUSTAN" and "CORNWALLIS" visited Aden and took part in the Centenary celebrations. His Highness the Sultan of Makalla took passage to Aden in "HINDUSTAN".

On the 26th January, H. E. the Viceroy and H. E. the Governor of Bombay embarked in "CLIVE" and witnessed a gunnery practice off Bombay.

H. M. I. S. "LAWRENCE" carried out a cruise in the West coast of India in February.

H. M. I. S. "CLIVE" visited Karachi in February, and at the beginning of March left Bombay for a cruise to Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Andaman Islands and Rangoon.

The distances steamed by H. M. I. Ships during the year 1938-39 were as follows :—

	Miles.
"CLIVE"	8,430
"HINDUSTAN"	11,276
"INDUS"	16,130
"LAWRENCE"	7,524
"CORNWALLIS"	6,102
"INVESTIGATOR"	12,823
"PATHAN"	2,824

CHAPTER VIII.

Air Forces.

60. *Organization.*

The Air Forces in India consist of a Command Headquarters at Simla/ Delhi, a Group Headquarters at Peshawar, 4 Stations at Risalpur, Kohat, Ambala, and Lahore and an Aircraft Depot at Karachi.

A re-organisation programme to meet modernization needs was drawn up in 1938. In consequence of this programme No. 31 Squadron moved from Karachi to Lahore in October 1938, No. 60 Squadron from Kohat to Ambala and No. 28 Squadron from Ambala to Kohat in February 1939.

61. *Strength—Personnel.*

British personnel consists of 249 officers and 1930 airmen ; Indian personnel 16 officers and 662 airmen. Four Indian officers have been seconded from the Indian Army and 3 are now undergoing training in Egypt and 1 at Karachi. There are also 3 Indian cadets receiving their training in England.

The strength and composition of the Indian Air Force is given as Appendix I (page 33).

62. *Operational and Training Flights.*

Extensive operational flying has been undertaken in Waziristan during the period.

The following special flights were carried out during the period under review :—

(*a*) On April 10th, four aircraft of No. 60 Squadron flew to Gilgit. Subsequently throughout the year other flights were made over this route.

(*b*) In April, 12 Harts of No. 11 Squadron made a flight from Risalpur to Heliopolis in Egypt and returned. The flight gave valuable experience in long distance moves.

(*c*) An Air Force officer was attached to the Air Party of the German Nanga Parbat expedition, and accompanied them during the flights between Srinagar and the camps by which method supply and communication with the climbing party was maintained.

(*d*) In October, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Chatfield and members of his Committee were flown over Waziristan.

(*e*) In November, the Under Secretary of State for India was flown from Lahore to Sialkot and back to Lahore. In January 1939 he was flown from Delhi to Rangoon.

63. *Indian Air Force and Waziristan Operations.*

The Indian Air Force has been actively engaged on operational flying over Waziristan for a total of two months during the period. Although the squadron as a whole remained in Ambala, flights were detached at Miranshah for this purpose from time to time.

64. *Re-equipment.*

In September 1938 Airspeed Envoy aircraft for the Communication Flight were flown from Portsmouth to Lahore. The Air Officer Commanding, Air Forces in India personally piloted one aircraft.

A Blenheim aircraft was provided in March 1939 for re-equipment training of No. 60 Squadron.

New types of aircraft are being supplied as re-equipment of certain squadrons in India.

CHAPTER IX.

Supply and Quartering.

Principal Supply Officers' Committee (India).

65. *Functions.*

The Principal Supply Officers' Committee (India) is an inter-departmental Committee of the Government of India on which all the consuming Departments of Government and Branches of Army Headquarters are represented. It coordinates the measures necessary to ensure supply of requirements in war for the Defence Services, for essential civilian services, for essential industries and for the civil population. It works in the closest liaison with similar organisations in the United Kingdom and Dominions with a view to ensuring a mutually beneficial exchange of those commodities of which a deficiency may

be expected in different parts of the Empire. Some of the problems with which it deals are outlined below.

66. *Importance of Industry.*

Under modern conditions the maintenance of Defence Forces in the areas of active operation has ceased to depend solely on the resources of the establishments and factories maintained by the Defence Department. Ever increasing reliance has to be placed on the assistance of civilian industry and it is also essential to keep all the normal means of communication in a state of efficiency-railways, river, road and air transport, postal, telegraph, telephone and broadcasting services.

67. *Imports and Shipping.*

Shipping space is likely to be restricted in times of emergency and with the advent of submarines and aircraft of increased radius of action, the security of the maritime routes is likely to be affected. Any steps which can be taken in peace to render any country less dependent on imports in war will have a direct bearing on its capacity to maintain forces in areas of operation.

There are many materials which it is not economically possible to produce in peace but for the supply of which arrangements should be made in peace.

Nearly every industry in India is dependent on the import of certain essential necessaries. There is little value from a supply point of view in establishing assembly plants which are dependent entirely on the import of the components. Such plants provide wages and work but do not increase security of supply.

68. *Skilled Labour and Machinery.*

Manufacturing capacity is dependent on the existence of a sufficient labour supply and the utilization of the bulk of this supply is dependent on the existence of sufficient truly skilled labour to supervise the semi-skilled labour and for the setting up and maintenance of the machinery and tools to be used by semi-skilled labour.

69. *Indigenous Supply.*

As a result of endeavours by the Central Purchase Oreganisation of the Defence Services, manufacture of the under-noted stores has been developed in India :—

Rubber components of respirators, anti-gas.

Fire extinguishers, Soda Acid type.

Canvas shoes.

The importance of developing indigenous supplies not only of manufactured articles but of raw materials, whenever possible, is fully recognized.

70. *Articles of Military Supply.*

This has been generally satisfactory. The following information, however, may be of interest.

Ghee.—Supplies of ghee, in which interest has been evinced, continue to be eminently satisfactory both from the point of view of quality and price

Rice.—Burma has been the chief source of supply of rice. Satisfactory sources of supply of Indian rice have now been established.

71. *Remounts.*

A scheme for the registration of camels in peace by the Army Remount Department was introduced in 1936. As the objects of the scheme no longer apply it has been decided to abolish camel registration, in peace, with effect from 1st April 1939.

It has been decided to abolish the horse stallion breeding stud at Ahmednagar in 1939/40.

72. *Military Farms Department.*

Consequent upon reduced requirements of fodder, certain grass farms have been closed down and a number of others have been amalgamated with dairy farms.

73. *Accommodation.*

(a) *Officers.*—Owing to an increasing influx of civilians into cantonments, rents of bungalows are steadily rising and suitable accommodation for military officers is becoming more expensive and difficult to secure. A few bungalows are provided each year by purchase, acquisition or construction in cantonments where the situation is found to be most acute, but the general situation is far from satisfactory, and the only remedy would be to undertake a large programme of acquisition and construction. This, however, is not possible at present owing to the paucity of funds.

(b) *British Troops and Indian Troops.*—A new set of lines for an Indian Armoured Regiment (less one squadron and a troop) is at present under construction at Dera Ismail Khan, and is expected to be completed during 1939-40.

Indian Troops lines and British Troops barracks are being brought up to date on an annual programme as far as funds permit.

74. *Quetta Reconstruction.*

Work has been completed on the 1st and 2nd instalments of the rebuilding programme.

Contracts for two more groups for Indian Infantry lines and Indian personnel quarters of certain units and departments of the Defence Services were accepted in March 1939.

CHAPTER X.

ORDNANCE.

75. *Provision and repair of vehicles.*

The responsibility for the provision, repair and maintenance of all mechanically propelled vehicles was transferred from the Quartermaster General to the Master General of the Ordnance on the 1st April 1939. The resources of workshop

facilities of both the branches have been pooled with the object of economising buildings, plant and personnel. Consequently the personnel previously serving with the Mechanical Transport Technical Branch of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps have been transferred to the Indian Army Ordnance Corps.

76. *Provision of vehicles.*

Vehicles used in the Army are classified as under :—

(*i*) Specialised vehicles, *e.g.*, light tanks, armoured cars, dragons, carriers and tractors ; vehicles with special technical bodies, such as workshop store, breakdown, wireless, cable laying, petrol tank, water tank lorries and motor cycles.

(*ii*) Vehicles in commercial use, *e.g.*, cars, trucks, lorries and ambulances.

The vehicles shown in category (*i*) which are not obtainable in India are ordered through the Director General, India Stores Department, London and are of British manufacture.

The vehicles in category (*ii*) are of Canadian and American manufacture, assembled in India, and are ordered through the Chief Controller of Stores, Indian Stores Department.

Chassis required for the carriage of special technical equipment, such as wireless, petrol tanks, water tanks and cable laying apparatus are now being ordered through the Chief Controller of Stores, Indian Stores Department and will in future be category (*ii*) vehicles.

77. *Repair of Vehicles.*

Repair work will be carried out by the following organisations :—

1st Line Repair Organisation.

Indian Army Ordnance Corps artificers have been permanently attached to mechanised units, to assist unit tradesmen in the maintenance of their vehicles. This attached personnel is termed a "Light Aid Detachment". It is under the control of the Unit Commander and assists in the 1st line repairs of unit vehicles and the recovery of damaged vehicles, and forms a link between the mechanized unit and the 2nd line repair organisation. It is anticipated that this arrangement will lead to a high standard of unit maintenance.

2nd Line Repair Organisation.

The 2nd line repair organisation deals with the repairs to vehicles, armaments and ordnance stores, fitting overhauled engines, gearboxes and axle assemblies and generally carrying out any repairs that are beyond the scope of the 1st line organisation. These repairs are carried out in Indian Army Ordnance Corps Workshop Companies and Sections.

3rd Line Repair Organisation.

The 3rd line repair organisation deals with major repairs of vehicles, equipment, spare parts, armaments and ordnance stores that are beyond the capacity of the 2nd line workshops.

The Heavy Repair Shops that existed under the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, have been taken over by the Indian Army Ordnance Corps and are now Ordnance Depots of the Corps for 3rd line repairs.

A new feature of the repair organisation has been the introduction of "Motor Mechanics" and "Driver Mechanics" in units. These grades are found from "unit" personnel. This personnel together with the Light Aid Detachment carry out the 1st line maintenance and repair within the unit.

78. *Technical training of skilled personnel.*

The Indian Army Ordnance Corps School of Instruction (now known as the Indian Army Ordnance Corps Training Centre) formerly at Kirkee has been transferred to Jubbulpore and will be expanded by October to cope with the training of 400 fitters and 100 electricians per annum. The average period of training will be approximately 12 months. At the present stage only recruits who have reached a certain degree of proficiency in their trade are being entertained. Later untrained personnel will be enrolled for training as artificers.

The training of Indian armourers is being transferred from Ishapore to Jubbulpore and the numbers under training will be increased from 30 to 96 at the close of the year.

79. *Factories.*

V. B. Tripods.- Arrangements have been made for the manufacture of tripod mountings for Vickers-Berthier gun at the Gun and Shell Factory, Cossipore.

Web equipment.—The question of undertaking the manufacture of the 1937 pattern of web equipment in Ordnance Factories from webbing obtained from the trade in India is being investigated. Manufacture will only be undertaken from imported webbing if it is found impracticable to obtain webbing from Indian sources.

Pyrotechnics for Air Forces in India.- Trial orders for the manufacture of certain pyrotechnic stores required by the Air Forces in India have been placed with the Ammunition Factory, Kirkee, in order to explore the possibility of establishing their manufacture in this country.

CHAPTER XI.

Health, Medical and Veterinary Service.

80. *General Health.*

This has been satisfactory both for British and Indian troops throughout the year, although military cantonments have at times been exposed to severe epidemics raging in their vicinity.

A brief review of the more prevalent major diseases is as follows :

(*i*) *Cholera*, spreading from a well-known fair, affected the greater part of Northern India. With the exception of one isolated outbreak amongst troops on a journey, the disease caused no harm to military personnel.

(*ii*) *Plague*, endemic and epidemic round certain Southern cantonments was likewise prevented.

(*iii*) *Malaria*, the biggest single source of sickness for military personnel and constantly present amongst the civil population, has been effectively dealt with during the year by active anti-malarial measures in cantonments and the increasingly satisfactory results of our present methods of treatment.

The year has been officially one of peace on the frontier and therefore health and sickness return from Waziristan have been included once more with those for all India, although field activities affecting the health of troops were actually in progress.

81. *Sick and death rates.*

(All ratios per 1000). The downward trend of sickness since the Great War period is shown by the following :—

Quinquennial periods.	Admissions.			Deaths.			Invalids.		
	B.Os.	B.O.Rs.	I.O.Rs.	B.Os.	B.O.Rs.	I.O.Rs.	B.Os.	B.O.Rs.	I.O.Rs.
1920-24 ..	676·7	791·9	593·2	6·71	5·24	8·01	20·99	18·91	18·25
1925-29 ..	589·9	619·4	385·6	5·25	2·90	3·48	17·44	13·50	10·80
1930-34 ..	423·6	604·7	453·3	6·69	2·64	2·63	20·09	8·88	6·55
1935-38 (4 years.) ..	337·8	580·2	415·7	5·49	2·44	2·07	20·28	9·55	5·52

Admission rates for British Other Ranks have been coming down steadily and are beginning to become constant at near the pre-war figure ; but even these rates are double the home sick rates. The rate for officers is definitely reduced ; that for I. O. Rs. shows some improvement. Death and invaliding rates are still on the downward trend.

82. (*a*) *The insect borne group of diseases.*

This group which includes malaria, sandfly fever and dengue, is the principal cause of admission, with malaria as the chief single disease, for British and Indian troops. The rates are :—

	Malaria.	Sandfly fever.	Dengue.
British	50·4	24·8	3·9 per 1000
Indian	109·6	4·6	1·1 per 1000

These are preventable diseases and considerable success can be claimed by present methods of prevention.

83. *Preventive Measures.*

Spraying.—Increasing attention is being devoted to this method which has the advantage of dealing with mosquitoes, sandflies, flies and other biting insects in the actual living quarters of all personnel. Dilute solutions of liquid pyrethrum extracts are being employed. Results in some stations have been most gratifying.

Malariol ; a ready mixed oily compound has been extensively tried out throughout the country during the year and reports indicate its superiority in action compared with the previous mixtures of crude oil with kerosine. The decision as to its use will depend on the relative costs.

Anti-mosquito cream and containers.—Issues of cream which proved successful in Waziristan 1937 have been authorised, on an as required basis, and aluminium containers for this cream sanctioned on a 25 per cent. basis for personnel in peace.

84. *The dysentery—diarrhoea group.*

This still remains a major cause of inefficiency, equalling the insect borne group. The group depends mainly for its transmission on flies combined with bad sanitation and the presence of carriers.

Prevention by protection of food and fly proofing of all cookhouses, dining rooms and quarters is thus our main defence, and it appears as though on this measure alone can any improvement be hoped for.

85. *Respiratory diseases.*

Have remained satisfactory and only a mild epidemic of influenza became evident towards the end of the year in the Punjab.

86. *The minor septic and local injuries.*—This gives a combined admission rate of about 121·9 for British and 92·1 for Indian troops. This indicates a considerable loss of its " man-days."

87. *Other Measures for Health and Comfort.*

Air Cooling of Hospitals.—The method of air cooling with combined propulsion and extraction through water cooled screens continues to receive attention and successful progress towards standardisation has been made.

Training and Sanitation.—This has received particular attention in all Commands as forming the bed rock of sanitary control in the field. All Commands have in use special directive pamphlets on sanitary control in cantonments.

A combined pamphlet on " First aid, Sanitation and water duties " has been now compiled and issued to all stations as a guide in training of troops.

Anti-Tetanus Toxoid immunisation.—This measure was introduced during the year in the United Kingdom and British troops arriving towards December had received this protection.

Steps are now being taken to endeavour to protect the whole of the army in India by this method.

88. *Veterinary Services.*

The following is a brief report of the more important contagious diseases which occurred during the year under review :—

Encephalomyolitis.—An outbreak of this disease, of which paralysis of varying degree constitutes the predominant symptom, was first recorded in 1933 when 71 cases occurred of which 24 proved fatal.

45 cases were reported during 1938-39 of which 7 died, 13 were destroyed, 20 were cured and 5 were remaining at the end of the year. Several destructions were ordered on account of the advanced age of the patient. Most of the cases occurred among horses in Quetta. The method of spread is at present doubtful and field experiments to transmit the disease from an affected to a healthy horse have failed.

Foot and Mouth Disease.—In view of the extent to which civilian cattle are affected and the many ways in which the disease can be spread, it is not suprising that some 2,000 cattle, chiefly of the Military Farms Department, were attacked. There were only 5 deaths.

Influenza.—57 camels were attacked in one out-break but every case was cured. Neosalvarsan proved particularly effective in preventing complications.

Nearly 2,000 cases of epidemic coughing, a mild form of influenza, occurred, the victims in nearly every case being horses. In two instances only was this disease fatal owing to pulmonary complications.

Rinderpest.—The policy of inoculation of cattle of the Military Farms Department has again proved highly successful and there was no case of this virulent disesase among protected stock during the year.

Outbreaks which occurred among unprotected slaughter cattle and cattle of the Military Farms Department which had escaped inoculation owing to immature age, recent purchase and other reasons served to emphasize the value of the methods of immunization now employed.

Trypanosomiasis (Surra).—The ravages of this fly-transmitted wasting disease on camels can best be demonstrated by statistics which show that between the years 1922/23 and 1927/28 the average annual deaths amounted to 313.

Since then the Mercuric chloride test for the scourge in its latent form has been introduced and immediate treatment by intravenous injection of naganol has enabled a strict control to be kept on the disease.

Of 560 camels found to be affected with Surra during the year only 1 succumbed to its effects. The great majority of cases occurred on the frontier but in a very short time the patient was returned to duty, cured.

89. *Military Veterinary Laboratory.*—This Institution continues to do excellent work. In addition to investigating major outbreaks of contagious disease as they occurred among army animals it has played an important part in the investigation of sterility and strangles in co-operation with the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar.

CHAPTER XII.

Indian Soldiers' Board and Welfare Work.

90. *Object of Indian Soldiers' Board.*

The Indian Soldiers' Board, together with its organization of Provincial, State and District Soldiers' Boards, exists to safeguard the interests of the

Indian ex-soldier and his family, to look after their needs and to assist as far as they can from the funds at their disposal those of them who are in distressed circumstances.

Details of the funds controlled by the Indian Soldiers' Board are to be found in the Board's Annual Report, copies of which are in the Library of the Assembly.

91. *Maintenance Grant for Soldiers' Board Organizations.*

During the financial year 1938-39 the Indian Soldiers' Board made a grant of about Rs. 55,000 from the Indian Soldiers' Board Fund to the various Provincial, State and District Soldiers' Boards subordinate to them. District Soldiers' Boards spent this money in the maintenance of their organizations and in looking after all matters affecting the home interests of ex-soldiers and their families. These include, the initial examination of pension and medal claims, applications for the grant of scholarships, the distribution of medals, the investigation of cases of relief from charitable funds, the explanation of what educational concessions are available for ex-soldiers and the promotion of vocational training and rural re-construction schemes. Besides the sum mentioned above, these Boards also obtain assistance from the Indian Red Cross Society's Funds for ex-soldiers invalided out of the Indian Army for chronic diseases. In most cases the President of a District Soldiers' Board is the Deputy Commissioner or District Magistrate, and its Vice-President a Military officer provided usually from an Indian Infantry Training Battalion or Territorial Battalion. Its Secretary, either paid or unpaid, is normally a retired Viceroy's commissioned officer. Funds are available for military vice-presidents, secretaries and members of Boards to tour their districts on Solidiers' Board business.

92. *Grants of Relief.*

One of the most important functions of the Indian Soldiers' Board is to afford relief from the funds at their disposal to Indian ex-soldiers or their dependants who are in distressed circumstances. During the year 1938-39 the Board sanctioned grants totalling over Rs. 72,000 in 1269 cases from the Indian Army Benevolent Fund, and Rs. 23,000 to 289 applicants from the India and Burma Military and Marine Relief Fund. Grants totalling over Rs. 1,800 were also made in 14 cases from the Sir Victor Sassoon Fund.

The Board also pays a special pension of Rs. 5 a month in addition to their service pensions to Indian soldiers who lost their sight while on active service during the war. Funds for this purpose come from the balance of the St. Dustan's Fund which was raised during the war and handed over to the Board after its close.

93. *Employment for ex-soldiers.*

Between the years 1922 and 1938 employment was found under Government alone for over 81,000 ex-soldiers. During the year 1938-39 employment was found for over 4,000 ex-soldiers in official and non-official appointments. Various District Soldiers' Boards and Recruiting Officers maintain lists of reliable ex-soldiers desirous of employment in their own districts.

94. *Rural Reconstruction (ex-soldiers).*

During the year 1936-37 the Board decided to allot a sum of Rs. 10,000 a year for three years for promoting schemes of rural reconstruction in selected villages. The intention is that the inhabitants of a selected village shall decide upon a scheme of benefit to them, and provided they agree to meet half its cost either in money, kind or labour, the remaining half of the cost will be met from the Board's grant. Examples of the types of schemes which are now being worked out in districts of the Punjab are the provision of wireless sets, primary schools, wells, canals, irrigation and street paving, the training and maintenance of *dais* and improvements in village-hygiene.

95. *Vocational Training.*

The Board has made a number of efforts to promote vocational training for ex-soldiers after their discharge. Up to now they have not met with much success as ex-soldiers on the whole seem reluctant to undergo such courses even when the costs of training and of railway expenses to and from their homes to the place of instruction are met by the Indian Soldiers Board. Further efforts are now being made to discover alternative methods of vocational and agricultural training in the Punjab and the United Provinces.

96. *General.*

On the whole the year 1938-39 was a successful one. This was due largely to the increased efficiency in District Soldiers' Board work brought about by the reorganization of District Soldiers' Boards in 1936. The reorganization took the form of a change in the personnel of military vice-presidents (making one unit responsible for not more than two or three Boards instead of as in the past one Recruiting Officer being responsible for most of the Boards in his recruiting area), secretaries being appointed to Boards where none existed before, improved office staff and accommodation and the allotment of funds for military vice-presidents, secretaries and members of District Soldiers' Boards to tour their districts on District Soldiers' Boards business. A number of Boards, particularly in the United Provinces and Bombay, and also the Punjab, which had been inactive for some time have improved beyond recognition. Local tehsil or taluqa sub-committees of the Boards have been started or reconstituted in many districts. The Civil and Military Station District Soldiers' Board at Bangalore was abolished and a Board was reconstituted at that place by the name of the Madras Soldiers' Board which is responsible for looking after the interests of the ex-service population in the southern part of the Madras Presidency. Three new District Soldiers' Boards were also formed, two in the United Provinces (Bara Banki and Jhansi) and one in the Hyderabad State with its headquarters at Secunderabad.

97. *Child Welfare Centres.*—These continue to increase and to improve both for British and particularly for Indian troops. There is no doubt that they are beginning to play an important part in the family life of the Indian soldier in cantonments.

APPENDIX I. (See Chapter VIII, paragraph 61.)

INDIAN AIR FORCE.

Strength on 25th July 1939.

1. *Station.*—AMBALA—Strength 2 flights.

2. *Officers—*

Flight Lieutenants	..	2
Flying officers	..	12
Pilot officers	..	2
Total	..	16

There are also 3 cadets under training at Cranwell.

3. *Other ranks.*

Group I.—Technical (Mechanics)	..	63
Group II.—Technical (Specialists)	..	43
Group III.—Clerical	..	5
Group IV.—Semi-Skilled	..	33
Air ratings	Total ..	144
M. T. Drivers	..	8
	Total ..	152

M71DD—650—22-8-39—GIPS

SKETCH MAP OF WAZIRISTAN.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

GENERAL STAFF INDIA

Survey Section No. 417 August 1938—600.

A Summary of Important Matters concerning the Defence Services in India 1939-40.

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CHAPTER 1.

General.

Object.—In the course of a debate in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March 1934, the Defence Secretary promised to consider the possibility of producing annually for the benefit of the members of the Central Legislature an account of the chief activities of the Defence Services during the preceding year. In the following chapters a brief description of the more important matters put into effect during the period April 1, 1939 to October 1, 1940, are given. It is hoped that the information contained therein will prove of interest and use to members.

Chatfield Committee.—The Summary for 1938-39 covered the period during which the Expert Committee under Admiral of the Fleet Lord Chatfield had investigated in India the military and financial aspects of the problem of modernizing India's armed forces. The report of Lord Chatfield's Committee was presented to His Majesty's Government on February the 6, 1939, but was at the time of writing still under consideration.

Many of the details of that report it was not in the public interest to disclose, but the main substance of the recommendations was later published. The Committee recommended a comprehensive scheme of modernization for the Army, Navy and Air Forces to be completed in a period of 5 years (slightly longer in the case of the Royal Indian Navy). To meet the cost of this modernization His Majesty's Government proposed to provide a sum of £34,630,000 from the British Exchequer; of this sum three quarters was to be provided as a free gift and the remaining quarter as a loan free of interest for the first five years.

The Committee also considered it desirable to modify the principle whereby India assumed responsibility only for the protection of her frontiers and the maintenance of Internal security, while Great Britain undertook full responsibility for the protection of India against attack by any great power. Since the time that principle had been laid down developments had thrown into far greater prominence India's potential vulnerability to attack in other forms from those previously envisaged. In such cases India's defence would clearly be most effectively ensured by co-operation in the defence of points outside India which are strategically essential to her security. The Committee therefore advocated the principle of joint responsibility by Great Britain and India for India's external security. To implement this recommendation a number of External Defence Troops were to be included in the establishment of the Indian Army.

The Committee also recommended a programme of expansion and reconstruction of India's ordnance factories and the erection of new factories where necessary.

Outbreak of war.—The outbreak of war on September 3, 1939, profoundly modified the situation. It was clear that the modernization of the Indian Army had become a matter of even greater urgency and that previous time scales must go by the board; on the other hand the problems of modernization and supply had to be regarded as they affected the British Commonwealth as a whole. The broad lines of policy laid down by the Chatfield Committee were therefore adhered to as far as possible in the

circumstances. The External Defence Troops took up their posts according to plan in the Middle East and Malaya. The ordnance factories were rapidly expanded to a war basis. The Royal Indian Navy was strengthened by the requisitioning of a number of vessels. The Air Forces had, in accordance with the Committee's recommendations, recruited coastal defence units of the Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve on a territorial basis for the defence of the major ports. The Army was speedily reorganised on the lines recommended by the Committee. But the pace of effective modernization and expansion had perforce to depend on the material and supplies available from India's own production and by import from abroad. Nevertheless, to replace External Defence Troops and to bring the remaining units up to a war footing, the Army was in the first 8 months of war expanded by 53,000 men.

Expansion programme.—By the end of May 1940, it was possible to venture on a greater measure of expansion. It was then announced that the Indian Army would be further augmented by 100,000 men as an initial step in expansion to constitute a mechanised striking force of the most modern type. That expansion is now substantially complete. Some 60,000 men have already gone overseas to take part in the external defence of India. The difficulty of obtaining certain types of equipment remains, but plans are well advanced for the production of mechanized fighting vehicles in India. Further construction has been undertaken for the Royal Indian Navy. There has also been undertaken the expansion of the Indian Air Force to an eventual establishment of 4 squadrons. The training of pilots and airmen for the additional flights has proceeded so satisfactorily that more extensive plans are under consideration. The ordnance factories, which are in the middle of an expansion programme amounting to rupees 7 crores, are turning out ever increasing quantities and types of munitions and stores. Fuller details will be found in the chapters on the various services and in the chapter on "Munitions and Equipment".

CHAPTER 2.

Royal Indian Navy.

Expansion.—In accordance with the Chatfield Commission's recommendations, and following the surrender to India by His Majesty's Government of some rupees 15 lakhs formerly paid annually by this country as a contribution to Commonwealth Naval Defence, the Royal Indian Navy assumed increased responsibility for the local defence of the country's coasts. Following the outbreak of war, the expansion of the Royal Indian Navy was speeded up, with the result that naval personnel has since September 1939 been increased by 2½ times.

Structure.—Personnel of the Royal Indian Navy are grouped into four categories:—

(*a*) Regular officers, warrant officers and ratings of the Royal Indian Navy,

(*b*) Officers and warrant officers of the Royal Indian Naval Reserve and officers of the Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve,

(*c*) Ratings of the Royal Indian Fleet Reserve, and

(*d*) "Hostilities only" ratings recruited from the Merchant Service.

Regular officers are trained entirely in England; the training takes about four years. Ratings for the Royal Indian Navy normally enter as boys between the ages of 15 and 17 and join H. M. I. S. 'Bahadur', the recently opened 'Boys Training Establishment' at Karachi. This school was originally designed to accommodate 400 but is being considerably enlarged. Since it takes eighteen months to turn out a sailor from the schools, a special emergency procedure adopted for the war is the entry of 'special service' ratings engaged for a period of ten years; five years or less, if necessary, in the active service and the residue in the Royal Indian Fleet Reserve. They receive six months intensive training at the depot and then continue with their instruction at sea.

The Royal Indian Naval Reserve consists of serving officers and warrant officers of the Mercantile Marine. For officers, the Reserve has two Branches, Executive and Engineer.

The Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve consists only of commissioned officers with two Branches, Executive and Accountant; the formation of a third Branch for Engineer Officers is now being undertaken. Officer cadets receive 12 weeks training in Bombay before being appointed afloat to gain practical experience.

"Hostilities only" ratings are recruited from the Merchant Marine for the duration of the war.

Ships.—With the outbreak of war a number of merchant vessels were requisitioned and equipped with trained crews and armament for minesweeping and anti-submarine patrol. Further armed sloops and other vessels are being added to the strength.

Following the entry of Italy into the war, a further programme of naval expansion was undertaken. Contracts have been placed in India up to the limit of available building slips; the construction of minesweepers, corvettes and patrol boats, powerfully armed and some of them of considerable size, is in progress. Australian shipyards are also at work on some of the larger coastal defence craft required in addition, further construction for the Royal Indian Navy is already in hand in the United Kingdom and deliveries of the most modern types of sloops have been promised in the next few months.

Five sloops of the Royal Indian Navy have been placed under the command of the Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies, for service in the area of the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Persian Gulf.

Casualties.—The work of guarding the seas and ports against hostile raiders, submarines and mines, has been successfully carried out with only a single loss from enemy action. This was the loss of H. M. I. S. 'Pathan' on June 23, 1940. In exceptionally bad weather the bulk of the 'Pathan's' company were saved by another ship of the Royal Indian Navy

Merchant shipping.—In spite of wartime conditions, the tonnage cleared in several of the major ports has been substantially in excess of pre-war figures, and traffic has been practically uninterrupted.

Indian shipyards have played their part in the mastering of the magnetic mine. Some 136 merchant vessels have been 'degaussed' (*i.e.*, demagnetized to protect them against the magnetic mine) in Indian docks, while 49 have been equipped with paravanes against underwater attack and 146 have received defensive armament against attacks from air and surface raiders

CHAPTER 3.

The Army.

Expansion.—Before the outbreak of war, when the threatening trend of the international situation became sufficiently plain to arouse anxiety, steps were taken to reinforce garrisons in vital areas overseas. External Defence Troops of the Indian Army were accordingly despatched to the Middle East and Malaya, and since the outbreak of war these garrisons have been substantially reinforced. The outbreak of war further necessitated certain changes for units remaining in India to be brought on to a war footing. To replace the External Defence Troops posted overseas and to complete the strength of the units remaining in India, reservists were called up, territorial forces embodied and further recruitment undertaken. By these means in the first 8 months of war 53,000 additional men were enrolled in the Indian Army.

The second stage of Indian Army expansion was announced at the end of May 1940. The broadening of the theatre of war had rendered a greatly increased military effort necessary on the part of India and the expansion of the country's Ordnance Factories to a war time footing had made such expansion possible. Orders were accordingly issued for the enrolment of a first 100,000 more men, to constitute a field army of modern type. The response to this new expansion scheme was immediate. By the end of August 37,000 men had been added to the Land Forces. This, however, was merely the initial stage, and the tempo of recruitment has since been sharply increased. The initial enlistment of the first 100,000 is now substantially complete and India is now engaged in producing, as a first step and in a comparatively short period, an army to amount in all to close on half a million men of all arms, properly trained, equipped and mechanised. Thereafter subsequent expansion will take place as circumstances dictate.

In addition there has been a considerable expansion of the Indian Territorial Force, several battalions have already assumed roles in India. Certain units of the A. F. (I) have been embodied and assumed duties connected with the defence of some of the ports of India. Other units of the A. F. (I) have been employed from time to time as the necessity has arisen to relieve regular units in guarding vulnerable points.

Modernization.—The modernization of the Indian Army had some time before the outbreak of war been appreciated to be a matter of urgency. Such appreciation was in fact the main reason which led to the appointment of the Chatfield Committee. By that Committee a comprehensive scheme of modernization was drawn up, and arrangements were reached with His Majesty's Government by which Great Britain would pay a substantial part of the cost, while granting to India free of interest a large loan to assist her in bearing the remainder of the charges.

The outbreak of war necessitated a wider approach to this problem, and one in which India's requirements were not considered in isolation but as part of the scheme embracing the entire Commonwealth. Owing to the urgency of supplying the vast armies which have been assembled on the Western Front and in the Near East, it was not at first possible for India to obtain more than a strictly limited share of the material available, whether by production within the Commonwealth or by import from abroad.

The situation by now may, however, be considered to have eased considerably. British ordnance factories have been expanded to a remarkable degree while imports from the United States have also considerably increased; an increased surplus may therefore in the near future be available for export to this country. In addition India's factories are producing many articles of war-like equipment, including armour-plate, munitions and weapons of many types, while the completion of a seven crores expansion scheme for her ordnance factories will add a large number of additional types of armaments to her home-produced equipment.

In the sphere of mechanization, great advances have been made. The army now has in service or shortly to be delivered more than six times the number of motor vehicles it possessed on the outbreak of war. Plans for the production of armoured fighting vehicles are well advanced and are expected to ensure the output of a large number of vehicles within the next year.

Indianization.—During the years of peace the Indianization of the Army had been undertaken by introducing special Indianized units, into which no British officers were recruited after the establishment of the scheme, so that in course of time and promotion the unit became entirely Indian officered. The number of such units had been progressively increased from an initial 8 to an eventual 21.

With the outbreak of war it was appreciated that an enormous increase in the Indian Commissioned Officer establishment would very speedily be essential. Accordingly the above scheme has been scrapped and all units have been opened to Indian officer recruitment.

In order to accelerate the output of Indian commissioned officers two further steps have been taken. In December 1939 a radical alteration was made in the course of the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, and the period of cadets' training for commissions of those between 18 and 20 years of age was shortened from 2½ years to 18 months. Secondly, and as a part of a general scheme of expansion announced in May, a new training school for Indian commissioned officer cadets was established in Mhow. These two measures together were expected, to increase the output of Indian commissioned officers to over 1,100 per annum. The response to the appeal for recruits, however, encouraged the authorities to provide for a still greater intake at Mhow, which was to accommodate 600 cadets at a time, while the Indian Military Academy was also to increase its intake on the shortened course from 60 to a 100.

Another step that has been taken to meet the demand for officers is the reintroduction of Viceroy's commissioned officers in the establishment of "Indianized units" as Platoon Commanders, thus placing all units on the same footing. In addition large numbers of *ex*-soldiers have been and are being employed in the Indian Army, while numbers of gentlemen who have received training in the Indian Wing of the All-India Reserve of Officers have been called up for service.

European Recruitment.—On the outbreak of war, in accordance with the practice in the British Commonwealth generally, all European British subjects were required to register their names and qualifications for national service. National Service Advisory Committees were set up in the main centres to sift the mass of information gained and to recommend for emergency commissions those best qualified to serve and those who could

be spared with least dislocation to industry. The response was excellent. In accordance, however, with the expressed wishes of the majority of the European community, and to strengthen the hands of the Committees, such service was later made compulsory, as in the United Kingdom.

During the period immediately following the outbreak of war a number of Europeans from the All-India Reserve of Officers were called up and others recruited. By the time that the expansion scheme was put into force, the work of the National Service Advisory Committees had placed at the disposal of the authorities a body of information of the utmost value and the rapid expansion of European officer recruitment was immediately undertaken. The Belgaum Training School was progressively enlarged, while a second school at Bangalore also undertook training of officers for the Indian Army.

Indian States Forces.—Directly war was declared the Rulers of the States without exception offered the entire resources of their states to the King Emperor for assistance in the prosecution of the war. These offers were gratefully accepted. Not only have substantial gifts in money been received from Princes, but in many cases States units have been accepted for service. One unit each of the Bikaner State Forces and the Jammu and Kashmir State Forces, and a Field Ambulance specially raised in Bhopal have already gone overseas. By the end of the first year of the war, several units of all arms were serving in British India, among them a Nepalese Contingent of eight units.

"Class Recruitment".—As part of the policy of expansion it has been possible to extend recruitment to many classes and castes not previously enlisted in the Army. The Army has been accustomed for administrative reasons to recruit in certain areas where it is assured from experience of finding suitable material. Since the outbreak of war, and more particularly since the expansion scheme, recruitment has been taken considerably further afield, with the result that many who had not previously considered the army as a career are finding opportunities for service.

CHAPTER 4.

Air Forces.

Structure and Expansion.—The Air Forces in India consist of the Royal Air Force, the Indian Air Force, the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve and the Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

No expansion of the Royal Air Force in India has taken place, but a certain number of men have been recruited to replace officers and men drafted as instructional personnel to the Indian Air Force and Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve and for the maintenance of the new Training Establishments.

The Indian Air Force, which is an entirely Indian Service, is being expanded in accordance with the general scheme for expansion announced at the end of May 1940. The initial establishment of the Indian Air Force under the expansion scheme now proceeding will be three squadrons, consisting of four flights each instead of the normal three flights; a

fourth squadron is to be formed from the additional three flights as soon as ample equipment is available and the required standard of training has been reached.

The Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve units were formed shortly before the outbreak of war to assist in the protection of India's five major ports. They are, except in one instance, recruited on a territorial basis and correspond roughly to the Auxiliary Air Force in the United Kingdom, *i.e.*, they consist of a regular and volunteer element. The ground staff of the volunteer element is entirely Indian and the officers are both British and Indian.

Training.—Officers are recruited from those who either privately or under the Civil Aviation scheme (mentioned below) have had the equivalent of approximately four months preliminary flying training in a civil school. They receive a four months' training course at Lahore, where instruction is mainly concentrated on theory, administration, discipline and ground organization, but where they also do a certain amount of flying; those who prove satisfactory then go on to Ambala, where they receive a further four months intermediate and advanced instruction on service aircraft.

Aircraftmen for the Indian Air Force and the Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve receive their training at No. 1 School of Technical Training, Ambala. This school is equipped to train 350 Indian Airmen at a time. Technical training for Royal Air Force personnel is provided at the No. 2 Technical Training School recently established at Karachi.

Both flying and ground personnel are being recruited during the war to the Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve, that is on a war and not a regular basis, as in the other branches of the armed forces.

Twenty-four Indian Pilots, who recently completed their training at Lahore, have been seconded to the Royal Air Force in Great Britain. These officers have already arrived in Great Britain.

Civil Aviation Scheme.—To facilitate further expansion of the Indian Air Force, a civil aviation training scheme has been inaugurated in collaboration with the civil authorities. The scheme provides for the preliminary training of a reserve of 300 pilots and 2,000 mechanics a year for two years. These men are being trained with the co-operation of the Civilian Flying Clubs, in somewhat the same manner as the Civil Air Guard was raised in Great Britain, and under the supervision of the air authorities.

Aircraft Manufacture.—For some time there has been under consideration a scheme for the manufacture of aircraft in India. The inauguration of production under this scheme must necessarily be deferred until adequate plant and materials are available, but will be proceeded with as soon as these conditions are fulfilled. Steps have been taken to increase India's reserves of aviation spirit and to introduce the manufacture of aircraft lubricating oil in this country.

CHAPTER 5.

Operations.

Before the outbreak of war, when the International situation became alarming and the danger of war imminent, External Defence Troops of

the Indian Army were sent to reinforce garrisons in strategic areas overseas, in Hong Kong, Malaya and the Middle East. Following the outbreak of war, these garrisons have been substantially reinforced.

France and Belgium.—On the Western Front no Indian fighting units were engaged, but Mule Transport units of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps were attached to the British Expeditionary Force. The bearing and discipline of these units while engaged as supply forces in the front line areas was highly praised. After the German breakthrough these units were evacuated through Dunkirk and other ports. All units with one exception successfully reached England. Owing to the efficient manner in which they were handled under circumstances of extreme difficulty, and as a consequence of the discipline they showed under fire, astonishingly small casualties were suffered during the evacuation. One unit sustained only a single casualty during the whole period of the withdrawal and subsequent evacuation; another only two casualties. The men are now in England doing duty with the Defence Forces.

Middle East.—In the Middle East, Indian troops particularly distinguished themselves during the fighting in British Somaliland. Three companies of the 15th Punjabis held what was considered the key position on the right flank of the main approach to the coastal plain of Berbera. Detachments of the 2nd Punjabis helped to cover approaches to the port from the east and on the coast road from Zeila in the west. For three days, until ordered to withdraw, two companies of the 2nd Punjabis held a critical position in a gap forced by strong enemy forces under cover of artillery between positions held by two African battalions. At one moment a Company of the 15th Punjabis, holding out against a concentrated enemy assault, became isolated, and was feared to have been lost. The Company extricated themselves by a skilful night march, ultimately withdrawing through the rearguard two days later. Finally, when evacuation was undertaken, the defences of Berbera were manned by Punjabi Companies during embarkation and volunteers of the 2nd Punjabis distinguished themselves by assisting naval and military detachments who went out in motor transport to pick up a number of stragglers who had become separated from their units in the close fighting. During the entire fighting in Somaliland, the Punjabi battalions suffered losses of 4 killed, 11 wounded and 11 missing. During this campaign the enemy sustained losses of not less than ten to one.

Indian Mountain Artillery also distinguished itself in the attack on Moyale.

North West Frontier.—Owing to the slow development of land operations in the main theatres of war in which Indian troops have been engaged, events on the Frontier tend to figure more prominently than their intrinsic importance warrants. In fact, however, on the Frontier as elsewhere demonstrations of loyalty and generous offers of assistance have been made by many of the tribes, some of whom could ill-afford to do so. North of Kabul river there has been a certain amount of tribal dissension, but in no case did this take an anti-governmental line nor was it necessary for Government forces at any time to restore peace. In the Afridi country, at the beginning of September 1939, lashkars stirred up by pro-Amanullah refugees invaded Afghanistan; political pressure and the threat of military action, coupled with the unexpected resistance of the Afghan tribes, secured their dispersal and the Afridis

have since been quiet. The only serious trouble has been in Waziristan and the Ahmedzai Salient, where the Faqir of Ipi has continued to incite his followers to violence and to encourage raids into the Settled Districts. Ipi himself, who had during the early months of 1939 been stirring up trouble in Waziristan, disappeared across the Frontier after action had been taken against the areas harbouring him; but he continued to issue orders to his lieutenants and to raise contributions of food and money. In consequence of his activities there were disorders in Waziristan and the Settled Districts. Lieut.-Colonel C. W. May, D. A. A. & Q. M. G. Waziristan, his driver and servant were ambushed and killed and the Frontier Crimes Regulations were put into force. In the middle of November Major Duggal, I.M.S., was kidnapped between Dera Ismail Khan and Tank, but as a consequence of vigorous action and thanks in part to the intervention of Mahsud *maliks* he was released in January without ransom. In view of the continuance of raids and ambushes the authorities decided early in the new year to clear the Ahmedzai Salient. After an initial assault on the Gumatti Tangi, little opposition was met with and road making proceeded smoothly; by May 14 a main road through the Salient was opened to traffic and permanent block-houses erected. This operation considerably improved the situation both in the Settled Districts and Waziristan. Sniping incidents however continued and on July 6, 1940, the Resident and the D. A. D. M. S., Waziristan, were ambushed, the Resident and his driver being wounded. This and other incidents led to action which was opposed near Tappi; after two days' stiff fighting the opposition was dispersed and the situation in the Daur country has since improved.

CHAPTER 6.

Munitions and Equipment.

Expansion.—On Monday, September 4th, 1939, orders were issued instructing all Ordnance Factories under the control of the Master General of the Ordnance to put into force pre-arranged plans for expansion of production from a peace to a full war-time level as rapidly as possible. In peace the maintenance of the Army is naturally carried out with the greatest possible economy and reserves of warlike equipment and munitions are kept as low as is compatible with safety. On the outbreak of war, however, not only had reserves to be completed but an increased number of troops had to be maintained, preparations had to be made to provide for such further expansion as might be envisaged, and vast additional reserves had to be laid in in view of the needs of possibly extensive operations which might at any moment have to be undertaken. Further, the Government of India undertook to comply with requests for the maintenance of British and Allied Forces in various theatres of war in all those items of equipment which India could produce from her indigenous resources.

India's resources.—The 'Vocabulary of Ordnance Stores', which is the official list of articles of equipment needed by an Army, comprises some 40,000 items, including weapons, ammunition, ordnance stores and clothing. If the Army is mechanized approximately 20,000 additional items are necessary to cover vehicles, vehicle components and stores. Of these items, over 14,000 are produced by the Ordnance Factories and

many others by private industry. Very shortly after the outbreak of war, India was made self-sufficient in more than 20,000 items of equipment Every effort is being made by fostering industry, accepting substitutes and altering specifications, to increase India's output in this respect, and seldom does a week go by without further additions to the indigenous list.

Since the outbreak of war, Ordnance Factories have been working day and night to increase India's munitions output and for months have been operating a 22 hours working day. During the first 8 months of war the output of the Ordnance Factories was increased to the peak achieved at the end of 1914—18 and that peak has since been surpassed. Over the same period production of gun ammunition was increased 12 times, of small arms ammunition 2½ times; these figures have since been substantially exceeded. In the aggregate the Ordnance Factories were turning out six or seven times the quantity of lethal stores that they had at the outbreak of war. Personnel had been increased by approximately 100 per cent. and the establishment of apprentices and boys under training had been more than doubled.

In addition to the expansion of production of the factories as they stood on the outbreak of war, a very large scheme is being undertaken under which every factory is being expanded to increase its potential production and to permit it to undertake the manufacture of the most modern types of weapons and munitions The total value of the projects in progress under this scheme amounts to Rupees seven crores. Some idea of the work involved will be gathered from the fact that contracts for structural steel work alone amount to Rs. 30 lakhs; the whole of this is being manufactured and fabricated in India. India already manufactures rifles, light machine guns and guns up to the calibre of 4·5″ howitzers; completion of this expansion programme will enable her to produce the latest types of field guns, anti-aircraft guns, bombs, mines and depth charges, as well as vastly to increase her output of high explosives of all kinds. But perhaps the most important advance of the year is that in plans for the production of armoured fighting vehicles. Armour plate is now for the first time being manufactured in India, and will shortly be available at the rate of hundreds of tons a month. A suitable chassis has been selected and is being imported in quantity. Manufacture of armoured fighting vehicles will shortly begin on a programme providing for the output of a very large number of armoured vehicles within the next year.

Exports.—While it is undesirable to give exact figures of production since the outbreak of war, certain of the figures for India's exports of lethal stores will give some idea of the expansion which has been successfully undertaken. During the first year of war more than a hundred million rounds of small arms ammunition were exported and nearly four hundred thousand rounds of gun ammunition. Explosives exported include a hundred tons of cordite and a quarter of a million detonators. In the field of non-lethal production, particularly noteworthy is the work of the Army Clothing Factories, which have clothed units overseas in several theatres of war. Our production in this field is already 17 times pre-war production, and is expected to be more than doubled. Exports include over 1¼ million boots, 1½ million cotton blankets, more than 10 million yards of khaki drill, over a million cotton shirts and 2½ million pairs of socks.

Sargent Committee.—In June 1940, following the promulgation of the National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance, the Technical Training Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mr. John Sargent, Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, was appointed to examine the training imparted in technical institutions with a view to using these to the fullest capacity to produce trained mechanics for war purposes. The Committee made recommendations which would lead to the training of approximately 3,000 skilled artizans at a time. Its recommendations were accepted by Government and the scheme is now under way.

Roger Mission and Supply Conference.—The main difficulty in the expansion programme has been the obtaining of necessary imports, such as machine tools and certain alloys, required for the new factories which India is starting. To examine the whole question of India's potential output, to consider what equipment can most economically be produced in India, what she had best import and what share of the available supplies from Foreign countries and of the exchange necessary to purchase them can be allotted to her, the British Ministry of Supply recently sent to India a Mission headed by Sir Alexander Roger. After a tour of India's munition centres, the members of the Roger Commission returned to New Delhi to attend the Eastern Group Conference which opened at the end of October. There the whole question of co-ordinating the Commonwealth's war effort has been discussed with representatives of the Dominions and Colonies.

CHAPTER 7.

Medical Services.

Before the War.—During the months before the out-break of war the Medical Stores Department took steps to increase its reserves of stores and to make all preliminary arrangements for medical supplies to the Army in war time. In June 1939, under instructions from the Adjutant General in India, orders amounting to Rs. 7 lakhs were placed for medical stores, both indigenous and imported. The Medical and Veterinary Stores Sub-Committee of the Principal Supply Officers Committee investigated the sources of supply of essential medical stores required in an emergency; drew up lists of stores of which the manufacture, export or re-export should be wholly or partly controlled in time of war; inquired into potential indigenous sources of supply of important items; and made enquiries from Australia and Africa concerning articles which these countries could supply in excess of their own requirements if other sources of supply failed.

Recruitment.—With the outbreak of war a large number of offers of services were received from experienced medical practitioners. Of these many came from medical men who had already held temporary commissions in the Indian Medical Service. In view of their special usefulness to the Army, as many suitable officers of this type as were available were accepted for service and were permitted to count their previous commissioned service for rank, pay and promotion. In view of the number of applications from experienced men who exceeded the age limit of 32 years previously imposed, it was decided to relax this limit for those men in possession of the qualifications desired.

Recruitment to permanent and short service commissions in the Indian Medical Service was suspended soon after the outbreak of war. Instead a Selection Board was set up to grant emergency commissions to suitably qualified men. No new permanent commissions are being granted during the war, but on the conclusion, vacancies in the permanent cadre will be filled from among the emergency commissioned officers. Officers receive pay and allowance admissible to short service commissioned Officers in the regular cadre of the Indian Medical Service and on release will receive a gratuity at the rate of one month's pay for every 12 months' service. In the first year of war over 350 medical officers were recruited, trained and detailed for general and overseas service.

Recruitment to the permanent cadre of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons Branch of the Indian Medical Department and Sub-Assistant Surgeons I. M. D. Reserve was also suspended and an emergency branch of the Indian Medical Department (Sub-Assistant Surgeons) was created. Pay and allowances were the same as those admissible to the permanent cadre. To the end of September 1940, 325 appointments were made to the emergency branch of the Indian Medical Department.

Recruitment to the Indian Military Nursing Service (Temporary) was also entrusted to the Director-General, Indian Medical Service. With the help of Provincial administrative medical officers a number of experienced nurses were enrolled and appointed to military hospitals and units as necessity required.

A number of dentists are to be recruited for service for the Indian troops and a number of chemists for employment in medical store depots and in medical store units overseas.

A number of applications were received from medical men who did not fulfil the prescribed qualifications of age. A register has been kept of such offers in order that, though opportunities for service may not be immediately available, the authorities may be able to draw on all available sources if the need arises.

Medical Supplies.—Though there was no immediate shortage of essential drugs and other supplies in India, in view of possible delays in shipments it was desirable to conserve stocks as far as possible. A committee was accordingly set up to investigate sources of supply of drugs, chemicals and biological products for the Medical Stores Department. The Committee drew up a list of essential products, which was circulated to administrative medical officers with the request to exercise the strictest economy in their use. British or Indian equivalents or substitutes were selected as far as possible for these drugs and a survey was undertaken of Indian manufacturing capacity, either entirely from indigenous materials or with the help of some imported products, and of existing stocks of imported drugs and chemicals. From the information thus collected about 80 items of medical supplies previously imported were transferred to the indigenous list.

Among chemicals manufactured for the first time in India may be mentioned: potassium permanganate, potassium bicarbonate, kaolin, citric acid, sodium and potassium citrates: these are but a few instances, and experiments are constantly being carried out to extend such manufacture. Substantial headway has been made in the manufacture of surgical instruments and many articles hitherto imported are now made in India. Of many other medical supplies now manufactured in this country may

be mentioned oxygen outfits of field pattern, thermometers, ampoules for biological products and many other varieties of glass and rubber products. Research into substitutes includes standardisation and examination of the vitamin content of shark oil as a possible substitute for cod liver oil. Ample stocks of quinine are being laid in for protection against malaria. The Indian gooseberry *amla* was discovered in the laboratories to include a high content of vitamin C; large quantities are being powdered and made into tablets for issue to the troops to aid in preventing scurvy.

CHAPTER 8.

Indian Soldiers' Board.

Object.—The Indian Soldiers' Board, with its subordinate organisations, exists to safeguard the interests of the Indian *ex*-soldier and his family.

Maintenance Grant.—During the financial year 1939-40, the Board made a grant of over Rs. 60,000 to their subordinate organisations for their maintenance and for looking after all matters affecting the home interests of *ex*-soldiers and their families.

Grant of Relief.—Over a lakh of rupees was granted by the Indian Soldiers' Board in 1939-40 for the relief of distressed Indian *ex*-soldiers or their dependants from the various funds controlled by them. The Board pays a special pension of Rs. 5 a month in addition to their service pensions to such Indian soldiers as lost their sight while on active service during the last war.

Employment for Ex-*Soldiers.*—Between the years 1922 and 1939 employment was found under Government alone for over 85,000 *ex*-soldiers. In 1939-40 over 10,000 *ex*-soldiers were employed in official and non-official appointments.

Rural reconstruction (Ex-*Soldiers*).—In 1936-37 a sum of Rs. 10,000 a year for three years was allotted by the Indian Soldiers' Board for promoting schemes of rural reconstruction in selected villages in the Punjab. The third and the final grant of Rs. 10,000 allotted by the Board was placed at the disposal of the Government of the Punjab during the year 1939-40. The projects are well on their way to completion.

General.—In view of the present emergency, the Central Board issued various instructions to their subordinate organisations all over India regarding the protection of the families of Indian soldiers proceeded overseas. Three new State Soldiers' Boards were formed at Nabha, Patiala and Malerkotla and the District Soldiers' Board at Gonda was reconstituted in February 1940.

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